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10 DAYS

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Monday
March
6

DAY ONE
Starting **Bold...**
To Finish
Strong!
*The First of
10 Days of Praise!*

Tuesday
March
7



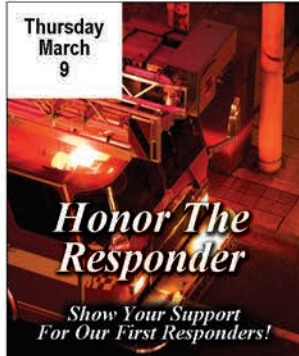
**Golden
Oldie Day**
Help Us Salute Your
Favorite Artist

Wednesday
March
8



**Celebrate
The Child
Day**

Thursday
March
9




**Honor The
Responder**
*Show Your Support
For Our First Responders!*

Friday
March
10



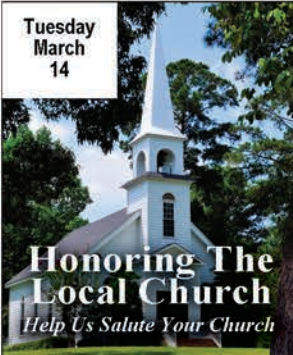
**FriendRaiser
Day**

Monday
March
13



**Military
Monday**

Tuesday
March
14



**Honoring The
Local Church**
Help Us Salute Your Church

Wednesday
March
15



**Local
Christian
Artist
Day**
*Help Us Honor Your
Favorite Local Musicians!*

Thursday
March
16



**Thankful
Thursday**
*Sharing Your Message
of Praise
and Thanksgiving!*

Friday
March
17



**VICTORY
DAY**



Faith Aflame
The Spring Share-A-Thon



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Pent-Up Petitions?

Dr. T. D. Worthington

It would be nice if prayers were always answered quickly, however that is often not the case. Habakkuk, addresses the people of Judah, who are suffering under the injustice of an evil government. He is crying out to God wondering why He has not interceded and answered their prayers (*Habakkuk 1:1-4*). In the verses that follow, God answers Habakkuk's prayer by acknowledging He is well aware of what is going on, but He indicates that the time is not right to answer Habakkuk's desires.

In teaching about prayer, Jesus said there were three levels of prayer: ask, seek, and knock. Simply ask and God can grant some things immediately. For other things you need to seek in order to obtain. You will have to look for the answer, perhaps in places you

might not expect to find it. Finally, we are told that sometimes we have to knock. This is a repetitive prayer. Come back again and again with your petitions for the Lord. In other words, you may have to wait for an answer. That is what Habakkuk is going to have to do. God tells him:

“For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.”

Habakkuk 2:3

Sometimes our prayers will be delayed, and God never apologizes for doing so because the delay is always for the benefit of the kingdom. All of us are impatient. But God will work out His amazing purpose on His perfect time

schedule. Of course there are other things that can hinder our prayers.

First, Prayer Can Be Hindered By The Holy Spirit.

Sometimes we utter foolish and unscriptural prayers. The Bible says the Holy Spirit accepts the ministry of helping us with this infirmity (*Romans 8:26*). We sometimes say foolish things to each other, so it is easy to assume we occasionally say foolish things to God. These prayers are monitored and edited by the Holy Spirit.

Second, Prayer Can Be Hindered By Sin.

Sin can hinder our fellowship with our Lord and rob us of a victorious prayer life. The Word of God also teaches us that a strained marriage relationship can also hinder our prayers (*1 Peter 3:7*).

Third, Prayers Can Be Hindered By Satan.

We all remember the account of Daniel who had to wait three weeks for his prayer to be answered (***Daniel 10***). Apparently there was demonic conflict going on which hindered his answer from arriving for three weeks. This example is not a secret formula of waiting for 21 days and then Michael will always show up and deliver us, but there are lessons we all can learn. It certainly teaches us that there are things going on in the angelic realm that we cannot see. Apparently, God also wants us to keep praying until the answer comes. We can also learn that Satan considers the earth as his territory, and he looks at God as an invading entity. Therefore, warfare is required when God's kingdom attempts to break through the lines of the domain of darkness (***Colossians 1:13***).

Prayer is a battlefield where the whole armor of God is required if you hope to be victorious. As God's children, we can expect to receive volleys of flaming darts. We are going to be attacked on every side. We can expect spies and traitors within our own camp. We will endure insults, intimidation, and accusations. There will be a relentless effort to destroy our morale and determination. Indeed, prayers can be hindered by Satan.

Fourth, Prayers Can Be Hindered By Strategy.

If you recall, Revelation teaches us that God retains all of our prayers and will one day offer them on His golden altar in heaven (***Revelation 8:3-4***). It also appears that on occasion the answer to prayers may also be purposefully stored up in heaven, waiting the appropriate time of release. The Bible often speaks of something called the

“fullness of time” that signals a release of held back promises. This is when history reaches a tipping point and all things are ready for a revealing to be released upon the earth. Could this also be true regarding prayer?

Consider the Lord's Prayer (*still not answered*), the birth of the Messiah (*a promise delayed by centuries*), and John's prayer of “even so come Lord Jesus” (*still not answered*). As we know, the answer to these prayers came (*or will come*) at the perfect time.

Now, let's consider how many desperate prayers and fastings have been made on behalf of our nation over the past few years. We have prayed regarding the abortion holocaust, the moral crisis, and the weakness of the modern church. Recently, we have petitioned God with concerns regarding our government's attitude towards Israel. We have prayed over radical Islam's persecution of Christians and their overt acts of terror. We are concerned over nuclear proliferation in Iran. We have prayed over the direction the Supreme Court might be heading if the wrong justice is confirmed, thus insuring the court would perpetually lean to the left. What happened to all of those prayers for America? Could it be

they were held in the vaults of heaven awaiting the perfect release point?

Could it be that America's recent realignment against Israel, the possibility of a left leaning Supreme Court determined to legislate the church out of existence, and the continuing abortion holocaust, brought us to a tipping point? Has the answer to all those prayers finally been released? Although it is far too early to assess the success or failure of the Trump presidency, is this unlikely man in the White House a part of the answer to our pent-up petitions? I am not proclaiming a revival, an awakening, or a radical reformation; but has God granted us a season of refreshing in these last days? Although I still believe America is heading toward judgment, I still wonder if perhaps a limited spiritual breakthrough has occurred against the kingdom of darkness.

When Pent-Up Prayers Are Released, The Effect Can Be Dynamic.

When God releases years of pent-up petitions it is like a dam breaking and flooding the countryside with His glory. It is God placing Himself in the very center of what needs to change. It is the power of heaven releasing itself





against those who intend to stop the flow of His purpose.

The victory in Jericho occurred because God's people followed His strategy, not because of powerful man-made munitions. Just like many people today, the inhabitants of Jericho never imagined their walls could be destroyed so quickly. But they were, and God's people rejoiced over the breakthrough.

Our Breakthroughs Are Opposed by Powerful Forces.

What is a breakthrough? A breakthrough is a military concept. When one army is able to weaken its enemy's forces to the point of collapse, a breakthrough occurs allowing that army to invade and take its enemy's territory. Since a breakthrough can be expensive in manpower and munitions, they are not attempted unless it will gain, or lead to the gain of strategic ground. Of course, the enemy knows his adversary desires this strategic ground, so he will amass a great force to keep it protected. Intense fighting most always precedes strategic breakthroughs. The devil knows that America is strategic ground, and such a prize will not be yielded easily.

This same concept applies to spiritual warfare. Since the devil is the god of this world, the church is an invading force. We are the outsiders. Some churches have basically resigned from the conflict; others have just circled-the-wagons and are satisfied to just hold on. But some have picked up the banner and attempted a breakthrough. Just like the Moral Majority back in 1980, these saints decided to become the aggressors, not merely the defenders. Just as the Great Commission commands us to go and liberate those the devil has taken captive, we took it as our position to liberate America from those who were attempting her destruction. Our strategy involved years of prayer and action.

When God moves the church does not always respond, but Satan always will. As a matter of fact, every significant move of God will be preceded and accompanied by a season of increasingly difficult and discouraging opposition. Be assured, if we are not encountering opposition, it's likely we are not attacking the devil's ground at a strategic point. It is where the enemy is fortifying his forces that we must focus our assault.

So, in summary, I do not know what the legacy of President Trump might be. As of this writing, he seems to be off to a good start. People on both sides of the isle seem to be shocked with a President who appears to be keeping his word on a number of issues. Let's pray our amazement will continue. I know better than to put my faith in a man, however it does appear (*at least at this stage*) that a flood of the pent-up prayers of God's people are being answered. It could be that the wickedness coming from Washington over the past few years reached a tipping point. This tipping point motivated God's people to fast, pray, and work even harder to save our nation. Perhaps the stench of our wickedness also reached the God of heaven who determined it was time to answer our prayers of the past years.

Finally, A Personal Application for You and Me.

Perhaps you are praying for a breakthrough in your personal life and have not seen any signs of victory, do not give up. Remember, intense fighting always precedes strategic breakthroughs. You are fighting an enemy who is stronger than you can imagine, however "*greater is He that is in you, that he who is in the world*" (**I John 4:4**). Don't lose heart. Perhaps there is a breakthrough just around the corner and a new world of potential and possibilities will be opened for you as years of pent-up petitions are answered.



Dr. Worthington has been in the ministry over forty years and serves as President of Pathway Ministries.



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March, 2017
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Being Blessed

God blessed many in the Bible by putting them at the right place at the right time. He continues to do the same for His people today.

“I returned and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favor to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.”

Ecclesiastes 9:11

In the natural world, the fastest and strongest person is usually the winner. The Bible says, “*time and chance*

happeneth to them all.” Just like with David and Goliath, these laws do not always apply in God’s kingdom.

The Bible also says provisions need not flow to the “wise” or “men of understanding”. So, just because you have a great accumulation of knowledge, qualifications, and experience, it will not guarantee success. We also see favor doesn’t belong only to men of skill, because those who are most skillful may not necessarily have favor.

So, the good news is you need not be the fastest, smartest, or most qualified in order to have success. You only need to ask God for His favor and His timing. Ask that our Lord place you at the right place at the right time to be blessed and be a blessing.

This also means God can put you at the right place to be a blessing to others. He knows your assets and

when He balances what you have (*or need*) with what someone else needs (*or has*), He can allow you to agree and work together for success. This success can be in business, love, friendship, or spreading the Gospel.

This is one of the concepts of the **GoMix Share-A-Thon**. It is people working together to accomplish the impossible. The victory will not necessarily be won by the wealthy or the wise, but by those who have favor with God to be a blessing to others for the glory of Christ.



For Additional Information:

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The New Commandment!

Throughout His ministry, Jesus taught us to love one another. He even called it, *“a new commandment”* (John 13:34). Certainly God has always wanted people to love each other, but this idea was foreign to the average person in the first century. Quite often a person was born into poverty or slavery in the Roman world. They would grow up to be angry with what the world could offer them. Most people did not live to be forty years old, and many were starving. Many were enslaved and hopeless. The idea of loving each other was far and distant. People were concerned with themselves and with surviving by any means necessary. Often that meant taking advantage of other people. Everyone knew they would be forced to look after themselves.

When Jesus told people of His new commandment, it was just as He described it: the idea of loving others was new. Obeying this commandment set apart those who followed Jesus from the rest of the Roman world. True believers were not just concerned with themselves, they also loved other people. Through this love, the people of the Roman world could identify the disciples of Jesus. They looked out for each other and loved each other in a supernatural way.

Modern life can also be a struggle. Instead of dying at the age of 30 or 40, people live on into their 80’s, but they often live in misery. They are not sold into slavery by another person, but instead they sell themselves into slavery through addictions and debt. In order to survive

the experience of life a person often develops a “*dog eat dog*” mentality.

As you know, everything the church does is meant to point others to Christ. We attempt to reveal to the lost man the horrible selfishness of his own heart. Through God’s Word we try to show the non-believer that he loves only himself, and not others.

But, the Word of God must also operate on a Christian’s heart as well. The law shows a Christian he has fallen short of the standard of love Jesus set for us. That standard was raised high on the Cross. It was a standard that requires every Christian to become an expert in ministering to others. Jesus told us to love each other, and when we fail to do so, we are either unsaved or backslidden.

In the world, it seems natural some people love and some do not. But in the church, such division is out of place. Jesus must change our heart so we can keep Christ’s new commandment and love others as Jesus first loved us.

At *GoMix Christian Radio* it is our mission to share the love of Christ with our listeners, both saved and lost. Our prayer is that those without Christ might be won by His message of love and that all Christians will allow our Lord to give them a heart filled with love for others.

Heaven's Value System

Dr. Glenn Mills



“And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name’s sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.”

Matthew 19:29

Jesus made it perfectly clear by His words it would cost much to follow Him, but the rewards would be great. He also said no man builds without first considering the cost, so he will know if he can finish what he starts. With that in mind, how many of us have made promises and commitments to God while failing to consider the cost? We mean well, but lack the character and passion to follow through.

While this world’s system may reward laziness and broken commitments, God does not. Time and time again the Bible reminds us we will be judged by the fruit we bear. Sadly, some can only see what this world can give. In time, it will prove to be temporary and costly. Even Jesus warned one could gain the whole world and lose their soul. It grieves the Holy Spirit that so many are choosing the temporary over the eternal.

Nothing this world has or offers can compare to that which only God can give.

“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have

entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”

I Corinthians 2:9

Joy, love, and peace are three things God offers to those who love and trust Him. The Bible tells us the joy God gives cannot even be fully described with words. His peace passes all understanding, and His love is unconditional.

Yet, all the wonderful things God desires to give us came at a great cost - the blood and death of His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Therefore, these gifts of God are extremely valuable. It is for that reason it cost so much to obtain

them. God will not honor casual service or half-hearted commitment. So much of what some do for God is self-serving. Churches are filled with people who love to be served but have little desire to serve others. Even Jesus said in **Matthew 20:16**, *“So the last shall be first, and the first last...”* To obtain God’s best we must be willing to die to our own selfish life and desires.

We cannot hide anything from God. Not one thing! He sees all, hears all, and knows all. He knows the condition of our hearts. He knows what and who we love. He knows what we are committed to, but then, so do we. You and I both know if God is the most important thing in our lives. We know where He ranks on our value system. We know what it has cost us to follow Christ. The real question is, *“What are we willing to give and pay to follow Him now?”*

The opening Scripture well covers the ultimate cost of following Christ, but not without God’s richest rewards in return. The Scripture lists things that are most valuable to many people such as relationships and possessions, but who would truly give up ALL for the sake of Christ? Some would leave the place they grew up for a great paying job. Some would leave their parents to marry a person who lives a good distance away. Many have left the farm in pursuit of a career. But, how many will leave ALL just for the cause of Christ? I have known many who would say, *“Well, God can use me right where I am.”* While that is true, He could have used them in a greater capacity if they would have been willing to go where He needed them.



What would have happened to Abraham if he had not been willing to leave everything he was accustomed to so he could go where God wanted him to? Would Israel be a nation today? What if David had stayed with the sheep? Who would have slain Goliath? What if Ruth had done what Naomi said and returned to her parents? What if Esther had remained silent? What if Daniel had just closed his windows to pray? What if Noah had refused to build the ark? What if Moses had refused to lead God’s people out of Egypt? Greater yet, what if Jesus had refused to die on the cross for our sins?

Our decision not to obey God will not only affect us, but others around us. While many remain in their

comfort zone, others cannot receive what they could have, if we would have given all for Christ. This year will be a year of great opportunity. God has wonderful plans for all of us. Who of us will be willing to follow Jesus without reserve? Who will seek God’s face in every decision? Who will leave ALL if necessary to be called faithful?



Dr. Glenn Mills is a full-time Evangelist with the Open Arms Evangelistic Ministry. He can be heard each weekday on GoMix Christian Radio.



Oh my! I am so sleepy! I can hardly keep my eyes open. I just had a satisfying meal with my sweetheart, the sun is shining in the window, and I am riding in the car. All three of these things tend to make me sleepy. I would love to go home and take a nap. Not a good combination when I have so much work to do. Maybe I should just “goofball” all day. Unfortunately, that is a luxury I can’t afford today.

Well, time to wake up, sleepy head! Take deep breaths and start moving. Fortunately, it was Saturday, so no one could see what I was doing to try to stay awake. I walked up and down the halls of the school raising my arms up and down trying to get my blood pumping. Since my work involved a

lot of desk work, I would sit down for a while and my eyes would become heavy. Here I go again! Walking up and down the halls like a crazy woman trying to wake up.

Have you ever felt that way? Your body is so sleepy you can’t get it to cooperate with what you need to do. If that isn’t bad enough, I think it is even worse when my mind won’t wake up. Some people call it a “brain freeze.” I seem to be having a lot of those lately. Have you ever gone into a room and can’t remember why you went in there? If you are honest, I bet you have. I have hunted for something I misplaced countless times. It frustrates me to waste time looking for something because I didn’t put it back where it

belongs. Our brains were created to be magnificent organs, but sometimes I don’t put mine to good use.

It is frustrating when I do stupid things that affect me, but it is sad when I do things that affect others. When my slackness causes someone else pain, that is inexcusable. When my testimony becomes sluggish, that affects everyone around me. It is time to wake up and stop being a sleepy Christian!

What is a sleepy Christian? Perhaps a sleepy Christian is one who just goes along their merry way and doesn’t pay attention to what is going on around them. Maybe the reason abortion was approved was because we were



sleepy Christians. Do you think that we no longer are able to have the Ten Commandments posted at schools because we sat idly by and allowed others to dictate our standards? I wonder? Is a sleepy Christian one who goes to church and mingles with their friends, but doesn't stand against wrong? Maybe sleepy Christians are why our world is in the condition it is in today. It would be interesting to know how many babies would not have been killed if all those *who call themselves Christians* had stood when abortion first began.

That brings us to another question. Does everyone who calls themselves "Christian" truly know our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? Are they Christian in name only? What does it really mean to be a Christian?

To identify yourself as a Christian means that you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior and you have dedicated yourself to following His will. You have asked for His forgiveness and desire to please Him in all that you do. I think we in America take the word Christian too lightly. In other countries, people who call themselves Christians are ostracized, imprisoned, or executed. It seems most American Christians of our century have no convictions.

When I have witnessed to my students, the two most common excuses I hear for not becoming a Christian are "I don't want to have to give things up" and "I don't see how any Christian is any different than me." Young people are having a hard time finding anyone who acts like a Christian. The Bible says in **I Peter 2:9** that we should be a

peculiar people. We should be different than the unbelievers. Someone who has dedicated Himself to Christ should be peculiar.

I was shocked to learn that only twenty percent of Americans are in church on any given Sunday. That means eighty percent of Americans feel there are more important things to do on the Lord's Day. Yet, according to ABC news eighty-three percent of Americans identify themselves as Christians. Over forty percent claim



their faith is important to them and attend church at least once a month. Does anyone see anything wrong with this picture?

Another statistic that was startling was that 4,000 to 7,000 churches close down every year. Why is that? What is happening? There are still dedicated Christians in America! I know several personally. Is their number declining? Do you think churches are closing because many have gotten away from preaching the Word? Is it because

many who claim to be Christians are living without convictions? I guess that would make us question if they are truly saved. If we call ourselves Christian, then we should follow Christ's teaching and tell the world about our Savior.

Romans 14:7 says, "*For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.*" Everyone is an influence on others. We influence our coworkers, friends, and most importantly, family. Have you ever considered that we are the reason people aren't coming to Christ? We are the reason churches are closing their doors.

The unbelievers of this world can't tell any difference in the lost people and the saved people. They have better things to do with their time than play church. Christians need to be a greater influence on this world. There have been some positive things happening in our government over the last few weeks, but time will tell. We do not know what the future holds, but anything positive is welcome. I hope that America does become great again, but wouldn't it be so awesome if the Christian community would become great

again. That is the answer to all our problems!

How can the Christian community become great again? It depends on you and me! Let's get started making a difference today!



Mrs. Worthington has five children and ten grandchildren. She serves as Principal of Pathway Christian Academy in Goldsboro.



And Finally...



Write Your Own Epitaph...

I am 70 years young. I have raised two fine, responsible men. When I pass, I would like my epitaph to read like the song by Jeff & Sheri Easter titled, "She Loved". It says, "More than anything else she loved. With all of her heart she loved... She loved the Lord and served all her life. A sacrificial mother and an honorable wife. She gave all she had and through every trial made life much sweeter because of her smile." I hope I will be remembered as someone who showed God's love to others.

C. B.

Well, my town's cemetery is right next to the high school and kids hang out there to ditch class a lot. So I used to joke that I'd have my epitaph say, "Go back to class or else!" to freak out the teenagers hanging out on my plot.

C. E.

As a nurse, I often tend to think family members are over exaggerating their sickness, especially with a common cold or a small cut or other injury. My husband jokes about my lack of concern all of the time. He's often said his tombstone should say, "See, I told you I was sick!"

T. J.

I saw this online and think it would be most fitting for a good epitaph: "Our brief partings on

Earth will appear one day as nothing beside the joy of eternity together."

M. I.

I would like my grave marker to say something like, "God is and all is well. Let your tears be tears of joy, for I am more alive now than ever before."

S. F.

It's not really for me, but I like reading about old, funny epitaphs from the past. There is a funny grave from the 1880's in Nantucket, Massachusetts that reads: Under the sod and under the trees, lies the body of Jonathan Pease. He is not here, there's only the pod. Pease shelled out and went to God."

E. T.

"Pack Rat - My Collection"

We'd like your help for an upcoming edition of "And Finally..."

May 17th, 2017, is Pack Rat Day!

Write to us in 150 words or less and tell us what you like to collect. The deadline for submission is

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