

RESTORING THE ART OF PLEADING YOUR CASE (Part 7)

Responding to His Promises

Priestly intercessors deal with two kinds of promises: the promises recorded in the Word of God that are yet to be fulfilled or are ongoing promises available to every believer by faith; and prophetic promises given to us in our day that are true, but are yet to be fulfilled (see 1 Tim. 1:18-19).

God tells us in the Book of Jeremiah that He is watching over His Word to perform it (see Jeremiah 1:12). That means the most valid and effective way to present our case before God is to rehearse and respectfully remind Him of His unchanging Word. When we rehearse a promise from our faithful God, He requires Himself to watch over that Word to perform it. But this entreaty only can be done with the purest motives from hearts that are clean before God. even then, we are only authorized to "argue" or present our case for those things and petitions that (1) are in accordance with God's will; (2) extend His Kingdom; and (3) glorify His name.

Wesley Duewel lists seven basis appeal for intercessory prayer in his book, *Mighty Prevailing Prayer*. These points provide a powerful platform of knowledge for anointed and effective intercession. It is not enough to get inspired and to have sincerity when we pray. We need to understand our God-given rights and privileges, and we need to understand our limitations and boundaries. That way, we can stand before the Judge in confidence. We will know that we are not merely trying to "twist the arm of God" to get Him to do something that He does not want to do. Quite to the contrary, we are called to ask him to do what He wants to do for us! What a deal! What an opportunity!

A. Plead the Honor and Glory of God's Name

1. God saved Israel at the Red Sea for His name's sake "that He might make His power known" (Ps. 106:8)
2. Samuel prayed for the sake of God's own name (2 Sam. 7:26)
3. David, knowing the God-given responsibility kingship placed upon him, prayed for guidance (see Ps 23:3, 31:3), and for help (see Ps. 109:21; 143:11), and for God's name's sake.
4. Asaph prayed for God to help Israel "for the glory of Your name" (Ps 79:9a).