

Boldness in Prayer

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"Be Bold, Be strong for the Lord thy God is with you." I've observed something important about BOLDNESS IN PRAYER that I would like to share with you. I feel bold this morning, however there is a difference between feeling bold and being bold. The Psalmist knew the difference. "Be strong, and let your heart take courage, All you who hope in the LORD." Psalm 31:24

The Bible teaches that boldness in the life of a believer is at once both a process of becoming and a state of being. See it in the lives of the early believers in Acts 4. "When the Sanhedrin saw the boldness of Peter and John ... they realized they had been with Jesus." (verse 13) And being let go from custody, Peter and John and their companions prayed for "boldness" to proclaim the truth. (verse 29) "And when they had prayed, the place ... was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the Word of God with boldness." (verse 31)

Boldness in life is boldness in prayer. "In Jesus Christ our Lord we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him." Ephesians 3:12. This boldness is much more than euphoric feelings of invulnerability and invincibility. For the Believer, boldness is the privilege of relationship.

Boldness in prayer is birthed in relationship, the recognition that God is my Father, and with confidence my salutation will be "OUR FATHER who is in Heaven." There is boldness in the prayer that knows that "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High (El-Elyon) shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty (El-Shaddai); and can say of the Lord (Yahweh), He is my refuge and my Fortress; My God (Elohim), in Him will I trust." Psalm 91:1 My Boldness to come before His throne is the knowledge He is my Heavenly Father.

Boldness in prayer acts with authority. "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations." Matthew 28: 18 "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come." Revelation 12:10

Boldness in prayer is pronounced, placed and predicated with purity. "The righteous are bold as a lion." Proverbs 28:1 "Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence (boldness) before God." 1 John 3:21 When the enemy has no handles of carnality to make claims on us, our prayer life has strong expectation.

Boldness in Prayer finds power in the promises. "My soul, wait only upon God; for my expectation *is* from Him. He only *is* my rock and my salvation: *He is* my defense; I shall not be moved. In God *is* my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, *and* my refuge, *is* in God." Psalm 62:5-7

Boldness in Prayer hopes in truth. Lord, your Word is Truth. "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." John 17:17 The truth shall set us free. Freedom is liberating. Freedom makes the spirit bold.

Boldness in Prayer is the knowledge of proximity; that we are face to face with Jesus. That He is present. That He is hearing every word. Boldness is the power to whisper and knowing that we have freedom of speech with our Heavenly Father through our perfect advocate, the risen Lord. "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of Grace, that we might obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4: 16

"Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might. .. With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints." Ephesians 6:10,18

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