

THE PROBLEM OF PRAYER
By Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. WRONG PRAYER	4
A. The Idolatrous Prayer	4
B. The Sinful Prayer	5
C. The Wrongly Addressed Prayer	5
D. The Power of Prayer	5
II. PRAYER AND THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD	5
III. PRAYER AND THE GREATNESS OF GOD	6
IV. PRAYER AND THE OMNISCIENCE OF GOD	7
V. PRAYER AND THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD	8
VI. PRAYER AND NATURAL LAW	8
VII. HINDRANCES TO PRAYER	9
A. Sin	9
B. Lack of Concern for Others	9
C. Disobedience	10
D. Idolatry	10
E. Lack of a Spirit of Forgiveness	10
F. Doubt and Lack of Faith	10
G. Asking Amisss	10
H. Lack of Love for the Wife	11
I. A Condemning Heart	11
VIII. THE MISAPPLICATION OF SCRIPTURE	12
IX. THE PROBLEM OF UNANSWERED PRAYER	12
A. The Examples	13
B. The Reasons	13
1. When It Is Contrary to the Word of God	13
2. When There Is Sin in the Heart	13
3. When the Relationship With Our Wife Is Wrong	13
4. When the Motivation Is Selfish	14
5. When There Is a Delayed Answer	14
6. When There Is a Disguised Answer	14
7. When Denial Is the Best Answer	14
8. When the Basis of Faith Is Wrong	15

9. When There Is Satanic Opposition	15
10. When There Is Unbelief	15
C. The Causes and Limitations	15
1. By the Lack of Faith.....	15
2. By the Will of God	16
3. By Failing to Use the Name of Jesus	16
D. The Questions to Ask	17
E. The Prayer Petitions and Types of Answers.....	17
1. Petition Answered and the Desire Unanswered.....	18
2. Petition Unanswered and the Desire Answered.....	18
3. Petition Answered and the Desire Answered	19
4. Petition Unanswered and the Desire Unanswered	19
a. Lack of Faith	19
b. Selfish Motives	20
c. Carnality	20
d. Lack of Compassion	20
e. Contrary to the Will of God	20
f. Lack of Domestic Tranquility	20
g. Not Spirit-filled	20
h. Desire and Pride	20
i. Disobedience	20
F. The Conditions for Successful Praying.....	20
1. Being Honest About Anxieties	21
2. Showing Humility	21
3. Using the Name of Jesus	21
4. Having Righteousness and Personal Purity	21
5. Having Unity Between Husbands and Wives	22
6. Concerning Faith	22
7. Exercising Persistence	22
8. According to the Will of God	23
9. Abiding in God's Word	23
10. Having Compassion	23
G. The Prayers for the Sick	23

© 2005 Ariel Ministries. All rights reserved.

No part of this manuscript may be reproduced in any form, except in brief quotation in a review or professional work, without written permission from the publishers. Cover illustration by Olivier Melnick.

Email: Homeoffice@ariel.org • www.ariel.org