

## **The New Testament Prayer**

- I.** Historical and current concepts regarding prayer.
  1. Most ideas about prayer involve asking God for something.
  2. Anyone can pray.
  3. God always answers prayer, either yes or no.
  4. The great “prayer warrior.”
  5. The “Lord’s Prayer” as an example.
  6. The sinner’s prayer.
- II.** A dispensational survey of prayer. The type of prayer in each dispensation corresponds to the character of the dispensation as God changes how He deals with mankind and the result of progressive revelation about God.
  1. Until the Mosaic law the male head of the family could communicate with God. Since the body of knowledge was beginning, the prayers were simple requests.
    - 1) Adam communicated in person to God (Gen. 3:8-13).
    - 2) Enoch communicated in person with God (Gen. 5:22 *cf.* Heb. 11:5-6).
  2. During Law prayers involved more elements. Prayer was primarily offered by priests, prophets, and rulers on behalf of the covenant nation. Other prayed when the Holy Spirit came upon them for a special office or mission.
    - 1) Prayer for the Nation as a whole.
      - i. Moses (Nu. 11:2).
      - ii. Samuel (1 Sam. 7:5; 12: 19, 23).
      - iii. David (2 Sam. 24:17, 25).
      - iv. Hezekiah (2 Ki. 19:15-19).
      - v. Isaiah (2 Chon. 32:20).
      - vi. Solomon (1 Ki. 8:22-26)
      - vii. Nehemiah (Neh. 9:32).
      - viii. Daniel (Dan. 9:4).
      - ix. Jabez (1 Chron. 4:9-10).
    - 2) Prayer for an individual.
      - i. Hannah, involves a priest (1 Sam. 1:12).
      - ii. Hezekiah (2 Ki. 20:2).
      - iii. Samuel for Saul (1 Sam. 15:11, 35).