The **Purpose** for prayer

- Q. Why do we pray?
- Q. If God is sovereign, why pray?
- Q. If God is not influenced by man, why pray?
- Q. If God can not be affected by us, why pray?

A. God chose to use the prayers and intercession of His children to govern the whole earth

God is all sufficient and does not need mankind for anything, but in His great love and wisdom He chose to do His work through His children who will agree with Him. To call His kingdom to earth

God gave mankind dominion over the earth and will not go against His Word

...God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion...over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." Genesis 1:26 NKJV

The Word of God is true, because the one thing God cannot do is lie! God who cannot lie Titus 1:2 Jesus as a man and the King who rules His government over the kingdom of God through prayer

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the **government will be upon His shoulder.** And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the **increase of His government and peace There will be no end,** Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom... Isaiah 9:6-7

God gave humans legal authority over the earth, so the prayers of His family invite God to bring His government to the earth.

¹⁸... *I will build My church*, (Greek- Ekklesia, governing representative assembly) ¹⁹ And *I will give* you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Matthew 16:18-19 NKJV

God's plan is to bring heaven and earth together all under the authority of His Son Jesus Christ

having made known to us the mystery of **His will**, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰ that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might **gather together in one** all things in Christ, both which are **in heaven and which are on earth—in Him** Ephesians 1: 7-9 Psalm 2 Rev. 21:2

This is the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples to pray

Your kingdom come. Your will be done **On earth as it is in heaven.** Matthew 6:10

Jesus taught His disciples to pray this way, to call the perfect government of the kingdom to earth

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:10

John Wesley said, "God does nothing on earth except in answer to the prayers of His saints."

The counsel of God will stand

There are many plans in a man's heart, Nevertheless the LORD's counsel—that will stand. Prov. 19:21

... I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, ¹⁰ Declaring the end from the beginning, ... 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,' ¹¹ ..., The man who executes My

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counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it. Isaiah 46:9-11 NKJV

Government – definition: the body that constitutes the governing authority of a political unit *a*: the officials comprising the governing body of a political unit.

Some governments are **elected** by the people they governed. Those who are faithful to God are **appointed** to the government of the kingdom of God by the King over all creation

Governmental laws effect all of our lives. Consider some of our man made laws. The total number of US Federal crimes exceeds 4,450. These are included in 50 titles and 23,000 pages of federal law. There are upwards of an additional 300,000 Federal regulations which no one can count. Just for example, 3,469 municipalities in the US have laws that restrict where smoking is allowed.

The Bible includes 613 Jewish commandments, God gave 10 Moses only commandments

As followers of Christ we desire to live under the righteous and just laws of God and His kingdom Jesus summed these all His laws up into just two – love the Lord, love you neighbors

Jesus said to him, "'You shall **love the LORD** your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'You shall **love your neighbor** as yourself.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." Matthew 22:37-40, Mark 12:30-31

Think how the world would be if we all obeyed these two laws?

The way that we demonstrate our love for the Lord is to obey Him.

"If you love Me, keep My commandments. John 14:15

Divine word 4:30 am 5.13.10 KC "Love the Lord. This is the key to the door of the kingdom of God."

We all need to encounter Jesus personally and not just intellectually. This takes time and devotion

The stories of Israel in the Bible show us that we can not obey God out of just duty. We must obey Him as we are motivated to love Him. 1 Corinthians 13 describes, 'the more excellent way' and that love never fails

Ambassadors of Christ are given a ministry of reconciliation, reconciling the world back to God

Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has **committed to us the word of reconciliation**. ²⁰ Now then, we are **ambassadors for Christ,** as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.. 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 NKJV

The real battle is for the minds of mankind, what we believe and act upon becomes our truth

Jesus is the truth, *Jesus said to him,* "*I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.* John 14:6

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Renew your minds to know the will of God

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Romans 12:2

Satan tells us lies about the character, the nature of God and ourselves ... "You will not surely die. Genesis 3:4

God said that the seed, the child of the woman, would bruise the head of the enemy

And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall **bruise** your head, And you shall bruise His heel." Genesis 3:15

Jesus, Son of God, came to earth as a real natural man born of a woman. He is always our example.

...God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, Galatians 4:4 NKJV

Jesus completely obeyed God the Father, resisted all temptation and was given great spiritual power and authority from the Holy Spirit working through Him.

Then **Jesus**, being **filled** with the **Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, Luke 4:1 NKJV Then **Jesus** returned in the **power of the Spirit** to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region. Luke 4:14 NKJV

Jesus demonstrated the source of His miracle working power to His disciples

Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed. Mark 1:35 NKJV Mark 6:46, Mark 14:39, Matthew 14:23, Luke 5:16

However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting." Matthew 17:21 NKJV Mark 9:29

...He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. Luke 6:12 NKJV

If the house is not a house of prayer it is not His house

...He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' Matthew 21:13, Mark 11:17, Luke 19:46

Jesus taught His disciples, ... *when you pray*, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. Matthew 6:6 NKJV

Prayer connects us to God and connects heaven and earth

When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while **He prayed**, the heaven was opened. Luke 3:21 NKJV

Jesus, as a man, always lives to make intercession

Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since **He always** lives to make intercession for them. Hebrews 7:25 NKJV Romans 8:34

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Jesus is the head of His body, His church

And **He is the head of the body, the church**, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. Colossians 1:18 NKJV

We are the body of Christ. Prayer connects the head to the body of Christ. The enemy of our souls wants to cut the body off from the head. This is why there is so much resistance to prayer because of its great power to change the spiritual atmosphere of the earth.

Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. 1 Corinthians 12:27

We are told to always pray

Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, Luke 18:1

Watch therefore, **and pray always** that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man." Luke 21:36 NKJV

Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 NKJV

The Lord is looking for someone who will intercede on behalf of the land

So I (the Lord) sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. Ezekiel 22:30

Intercession: is telling God what He tells you to tell Him. Come into agreement with His will, ways and timing. He is our King and we are invited to be beloved citizens of His kingdom.

Under the divinely directed global government, there are also many other purposes of prayer including:

To know GOD! To learn about the will, ways and character of God. To come into agreement with His heart, plans and purposes - Matthew 6:10. Jesus lives to make intercession for us. Pray for wisdom - James 1:5. Pray to the Lord to release His divine, protection, healing, resources, power and salvations. Pray for all men and leaders. ...prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, 1 Timothy 2:1 NKJV

Review

Q. What is the fundamental purpose of prayer?

A. To agree with God and call the divine government of the kingdom of God to earth - Matthew 6:10

Prayer:

Lord bless us with the revelation of Your glorious purposes for prayer and bless us with the gift of intercession so that we can come into agreement with Your perfect, will, ways and timing. Lord we pray Your kingdom come and Your will be done in our hearts, minds, lives, families and our communities.