

# Take the Crossroad to More Effective Intercession

by Chaplain Frank Wm. Nagy

Job was an effective intercessor for his three friends, after he had repented of his own sin, as innocence multiplies the effectiveness of intercession.

## **Intercession Involves Repentance of the Intercessor's Sins, Too**

2 Chronicles 7:13 If I shut up heaven that there is no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people; 2 Chronicles 7:14 If My people, called by My Name, **humble** themselves and **pray**, seek My face, and **turn from their wicked ways**, then will I **hear** from heaven, **forgive** their **sin** and **heal** their land. :15 Now My eyes shall be open, and My ears attend to prayer that is made in this place. :16 For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that My Name may be there forever: and My eyes and My heart shall be there perpetually. :17 And as for you, if you will walk before Me, as David your father walked, and do according to all that I have commanded you, and shall observe My statutes and My judgments; :18 Then will I establish the throne of your kingdom, according as I have covenanted with David your father, saying, There shall not fail you a man to be ruler in Israel. :19 But if you turn away, and forsake My statutes and My commandments, which I have set before you, and shall go and serve other gods, and worship them; :20 Then will I pluck them up by the roots out of My land which I have given them; and this house, which I have sanctified for My Name, will I cast out of My sight, and will make it a proverb and a byword among all nations. :21 And this house, which is high, shall be an astonishment to everyone that passes by it; so that he shall say, Why has the LORD done thus unto this land, and unto this house? :22 And it shall be answered, Because they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold on other gods, and worshiped them, and served them. For that reason has He brought all this evil upon them.

## **Daniel Included Himself Among the Unrighteous as He Interceded**

Daniel 9:1 In the first year of Darius, the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; :2 In the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood by books the number of the years, the word of the LORD spoke of to Jeremiah the prophet. He said He would accomplish seventy years of desolations for Jerusalem. :3 So I set my face toward the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:

Isn't this very different from the attitude of most of those, who feel Jesus is going to return any day now? Where is this depth of sackcloth and ashes repentance and seeking after God with the tears it takes to sow the seeds of the gospel of the kingdom which will reap the great end-harvest of souls that will usher in Jesus' return? We do not see such heart-felt motivation in most, who call themselves Christian believers. Yet, the Bible continually paints disciples in this light.

Daniel 9:4 I prayed to the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to

them that keep his commandments; :5 **We have sinned**, have committed iniquity, have done wickedly and have rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and from Your judgments: :6 Neither have we hearkened unto Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your Name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers and to all the people of the land. :7 O Lord, righteousness belongs unto You, but unto us confusion of faces, as at this day; to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and unto all Israel, that are near, and that are far off, through all the countries where You have driven them, because of their trespass that they have trespassed against You. :8 O Lord, **to us belongs confusion of face**, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, **because we have sinned** against You. :9 To the Lord, our God, belong mercies and forgivenesses, though **we have rebelled against him**. :10 Neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in his laws, which He set before us by his servants, the prophets. :11 Yes, **all Israel have transgressed Your law**, even by departing, that they might not obey Your voice; therefore **the curse is poured upon us**, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, **because we have sinned against him**. :12 He has confirmed his words, which He spoke against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil. For under the whole heaven has there never been done anything like what has been done to Jerusalem. :13 As it is written in the law of Moses, **all this evil has come upon us. Yet, we did not make our prayer before the LORD our God, so we might turn from our iniquities**, and understand Your *truth*. :14 So the LORD has watched the evil, and brought it upon us: for the LORD our God is righteous in all his works which He does. **We did not obey his voice**. :15 And now, O Lord our God, that has brought Your people forth out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and has gotten Yourself renown, as at this day; **we have sinned, we have done wickedly**. :16 O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I beseech You, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain: because of **our sins**, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people have become a reproach to all those around us. :17 Now therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and cause Your face to shine upon Your sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake. :18 O my God, incline Your ear, and hear; open Your eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by Your Name: for we do not present our supplications before You for our righteousnesses, but for Your great mercies. :19 O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do good to us. Do not defer from doing good to us, for Your own sake, O my God. For Your city and Your people are called by Your Name.

Jesus, our innocent suffering Savior, intercedes for us to come into this level of holiness that will effectively move heaven for the lost.

### **True Innocence Supercharges Intercession**

Job and Jesus show how innocent suffering supercharges *intercession*:

Job 42:7 The LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, “My wrath [God’s anger] is kindled against you, and against your two friends: for you have not spoken the thing that is right

about me, as my servant Job has. 8 So now take seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and **my servant Job shall pray for you: for him will I accept:** lest I deal with you after your folly, in that you have not *spoken of me what is right*, like my servant Job.”

9 So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went, and did according as the LORD commanded them: the LORD also accepted Job.

*The innocent sufferings* and death of Christ our Lord mentioned in the creed is clearly spelled out in Isaiah 53:

Isaiah 53:10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him. He has put him to grief: when You shall make his soul an offering for sin... 11...by his knowledge shall *My righteous Servant* justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. 12 ...He has poured out his soul unto death and he was numbered with the transgressors. He bore the sin of many, and **made intercession** for the transgressors.

Luke 23:34 Then Jesus said, “**Father, forgive them;** for they do not know what they are doing.”

Hebrews 7:22 By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament. :23 And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death: :24 But this man, because he continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. :25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever lives to make **intercession** for them. :26 For such an High Priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens...

### **The Power of Purity is Available to the Intercessor**

1 John 1:9 has the answer.

“If we confess our sins, **He is faithful** and just to forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).”

As we confess our sins, we become purified from whatever filth our sins had brought upon us. Then, we have a purity before God that releases the same kind of power that is continually released in Jesus’ ever interceding for the saints at the throne of God.