

# PRAYING THROUGH TO VICTORY

THERE is a way to pray through and hear from Heaven. There is a way to have victory. We often sing here: "If you want victory, pray your way through." One thing is certain, we will never have victory without praying until we have the assurance our sins are forgiven. The soul who longs for God to come into his life and do something that will enable him to live a life pleasing, to God may be sure that when he calls on God out of a sincere and contrite heart, God will hear him.

## The Prayer God Answered

Jesus said many things concerning importunate praying, and He also told what kind of prayer God answered, by relating the parable of the Pharisee and the publican. These two men went into the Temple to pray. One told God how good he was. He said, "God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess." But the publican standing with bowed head, realizing his own sinful condition, just smote upon his breast, and would not so much as lift his eyes to Heaven. He cried to God for mercy, piling all his sins and his misery in one prayer — "God be merciful to me a sinner." And Jesus said, "I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other" (Luke 18:9-14).

It is the broken and penitent heart that hears from God.

## Confess Your Sins

Humbly confess your sins to God and pray as the publican did — "God be merciful to me a sinner." Pray from the very depths of your heart and do not give up until you hear from God. Faith will bring salvation into your soul. God will abundantly pardon. The Blood of Jesus will blot out the past, and your name will go down in the Lamb's Book of Life. You will know when the work is done, for the Spirit of God will witness to it. Joy and peace will fill your soul.

## The Price Has Been Paid

Remember, the price of your pardon has already been paid. Jesus Christ suffered on Calvary for your sins. That alone is the hope of your salvation. Do not expect to obtain it on your own merits, or on any good works. Jesus Christ died for you just as truly as if you had been the only sinner in this world. He suffered pain, condemnation, and death, "that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Jesus promised, "And him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37). That promise is true, and He will vindicate it every time to a hungry and honest heart. All one needs to do is to put God to the test, and God will honor His Word.

## A HUNGRY HEART FINDS REALITY

"I thank God for the time He became real in my heart. I never shall forget the conviction that rested on my heart over a number of years.

"I have only to look back to the hole of the pit from whence God dug me, and it puts praises in my heart that I am here. I wanted to serve God all my life, but I thank Him today I am truly serving Him in spirit and in truth.

"My husband was a minister, and I believe that I was just in a position that thousands of ministers' wives are in. I had a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. But I do thank God he dealt faithfully with my heart and brought such conviction to my soul that I realized I needed Him. I began to seek God. I knew of no one to pray with me and help me find victory, but alone in my own home I sought God. My heart was bound by doubts and fears and unbelief and it seemed impossible for me to get a prayer through to the Throne of Grace.

"But one night I walked into my room and opened my Bible and the first words I saw were these, 'The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple.' Just those few words out of the blessed Word of God inspired faith in my heart and I took hold of the promise and God came down and washed my sins away, made me a new creature in Christ Jesus. I lived a different life after that. Old things passed away and all things became new."—E.D.

## **PRAYED THROUGH IN A LITTLE LOG CABIN**

"Up in the mountains, in a little log cabin, I gave my heart to God. Out in the Black Hills country of Wyoming, there among a little company of God's people, God began to talk to my heart. One night I knelt before God and said, 'O God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' As I prayed, God made a wonderful change in my life, took out the old desires that had me bound, and put a new hope in my heart.

"As a schoolboy, I had been brought up in a good home; but there was sin in my life. There was remorse in my heart for the sins I committed. I thank God, those things have passed away, and all things have, become new.

"I had to go back over my life and straighten up things I had stolen and lies I had told; but God gave me grace to do it. I found power in the Gospel to come down into a young man's life and completely change and transform it and cause him to live right, here in this present world." — C. B.