

## ANNEX 7

### INTERCESSORY PRAYER OUTLINE NEW COVENANT MINISTRIES

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The following is an outline setting forth the principles behind intercessory prayer. All quoted scriptures are from the New American Standard Bible except where noted. Where the scriptures are merely references, you are encouraged to search them out.

#### I. DEFINITIONS of the word "intercede"

A. English language dictionary: "1. To plead or beg in another's behalf. 2. To interfere in order to bring about an agreement."

B. Unger's Bible Dictionary

1. Hebrew: "Come upon"
2. Greek: "Meet with, come between."

#### II. WHY INTERCEDE?

A. Because God expects it!

1. Ezekiel 22:30-"And I (the Lord) searched for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found not one."
2. Psalm 106:23-"Therefore He said that He would destroy them had not Moses His chosen one stood in the breach before Him, to turn away His wrath from destroying them."
3. Isaiah 58:12-"And those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; you will raise up the age-old foundations; and you will be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of the paths in which to dwell."
4. See also Ezekiel 13:5 and Isaiah 62:6-7.

B. To be like Jesus!

1. Isaiah 59:16-"And He saw that there was no man, and was astonished that there was no one to intercede; then His own arm brought salvation to Him; and His righteousness upheld Him."
2. Romans 8:34-"...Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us."
3. Hebrews 7:25-"Hence, also, He is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them."
4. See also Isaiah 63:5 and Romans 8:27

#### III. PREPARING TO INTERCEDE

A. I Must Sanctify Myself Before God

1. Why?
  - a. because without personal sanctification (purification), our prayers are unheard

- i. Is. 1:4 & 15-“Alas sinful nation, people weighed down with iniquity, offspring of evil doers, sons who act corruptly! They have abandoned the Lord, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they have turned away from Him. ...So when you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide My eyes from you, yes, even though you multiply prayers, I will not listen....”
- ii. Mic. 3:2 & 4-“You who hate good and love evil,...Then they will cry out to the Lord, but He will not answer them. Instead He will hide His face from them at that time, because they have practiced evil deeds.”
- iii. Prov. 15:29-“The Lord is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous.”
- b. We are assured that God hears us pray when we are clean before Him.
  - i. John 9:31-“We know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing, and does His will, He hears him.”
  - ii. 1 John 3:21-22-“Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight.”

## 2. How do I sanctify myself?

- a. by purifying myself from sin by repenting, confessing & asking forgiveness
  - i. 1 John 1:9-“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”
  - ii. 2 Tim. 2:21-“Therefore, if a man cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.”
  - iii. 2 Cor. 7:1-“Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”
  - iv. See also Psalm 86:5
- b. by forgiving my fellow man
  - i. Matt. 6:14-15-“For if you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will not forgive you your transgressions.”
  - ii. Col. 3:13-“bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.”
  - iii. Eph 4:32-“And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.”
  - iv. See also Mark 11:25-26 and Matt. 18:32-35.
- c. by separating myself from the things of the world
  - i. 2 Chron. 7:14-“(If) My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and heal their land.”
  - ii. Lev. 11:44-45-“For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy; for I am holy. And you shall not make

yourselves unclean with any of the swarming things that swarm on the earth. For I am the Lord, who brought you up from the land of Egypt, to be your God; thus you shall be holy for I am holy.”

iii. 2 Cor. 6:17-“Therefore, come out from their midst and be separate,” says the Lord....

d. by separating myself UNTO the Holy Spirit

i. John 4:24-“God is spirit ,and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

ii. Phil. 3:3-“for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh,...”

iii. Gal. 5:25-“If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.”

B. Prepare Myself to Enter Spiritual Warfare

1. 2 Cor. 10:3-4 “For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.”

2. Eph. 6:12-“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.”

3. Jesus wore the battle dress of an intercessor in Is. 59:17-“And He put on righteousness like a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on His head; and He put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped Himself with zeal as a mantle.”

4. I will put on the same battle dress of an intercessor-Eph. 6:13-17

13. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

14. Stand firm, therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, (see also 1 Thes. 5:8; Rom 13:12)

15. and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; (see Is. 52:7; Rom. 10:15)

16. in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil one. (see 1 Thes. 5:8; Ps. 7:13)

17. and take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (see Is. 49:2; Heb. 4:12)

C. I Will Begin to Pray in the Spirit

1. Ephesians 6:18-“With all prayer and petition, pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,...”

2. Jude 20-21-“But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith; praying in the Holy Spirit; keep yourselves in the love of God,...”

3. Romans 8:26-“And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weaknesses; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words;...”

IV. MAKING INTERCESSION

A. Begin

1. By praising and worshipping God

- a. Rev. 4:11-“Worthy art Thou, our Lord and our God, to receive glory & honor & power; for Thou didst create all things, and because of Thy will they existed, and were created.”
- b. Rev. 14:7-“and he said with a loud voice, “Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters.”
- c. 1 Chron. 16:29-“Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name. Bring an offering and come before Him; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.”
- d. See also Ex. 34:14; Psm 29:2, 45:11, 96:9, 95:6, 99:5 & 9, 132:7; Is. 66:23; Matt. 4:10; John 4:23-24; Phil. 3:3.

2. By thanking Him for His blessings and for His answers to prayer.

- a. 1 Thes. 5:16-18-“Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”
- b. Ps. 100:4-“Enter His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him and bless His name.”
- c. Phil. 4:6-7-“Be anxious for nothing, but by prayer and supplications with thanksgiving let your request be known to God.”
- d. See also Eph. 5:20

3. By determining to keep an attitude of praise and thanksgiving throughout intercession lest a spirit of heaviness descend.

- a. Col. 4:2-“Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving.”
- b. Phil 1:3-4-“I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, ...”
- c. Is. 61:3-“...to grant to those who mourn (intercede) in Zion...the garment of praise instead of a spirit of heaviness.”

B. Use Your God-given Authority to Bind the Enemy

- 1. Matt. 18:18-“Truly I say to you, whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”
- 2. Matt. 10:1-“And having summoned His twelve disciples, He gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.”
- 3. Matt. 12:29-“Or how can anyone enter the strong man’s house and carry off his property, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house.”
- 4. See also Matt. 16:19

C. Petition the Father

- 1. Heb. 4:16-“Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need.”
- 2. John 14:14-“If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.”
- 3. 1 John 5:14-15-“And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.”
- 4. See also John 16:23

D. Allow the Holy Spirit Total Freedom to Work Through You

- 1. 1 Thes. 5:19-“Do not quench the Spirit;...”

2. Eph. 4:30-“And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God,...”
3. Is. 63:10-“But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit; therefore, He turned Himself to become their enemy, He fought against them.”
4. He will give you revelation knowledge to be used to guide your intercessions
  - a. Heb. 4:13-“And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with Whom we have to do.”
  - b. Eph. 1:9-“He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him...”
  - c. Phil. 1:9-“And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment,...”
  - d. 1 John 5:7-“And it the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is the truth.”

NOTE: Revelation knowledge, like prayer requests, is a highly confidential piece of information and should never be mentioned outside of the intercessory prayer time.

#### E. Use Scripture to Intercede

1. Be confident in using scripture in your intercession
  - a. Eph. 6:17-“And take...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”
  - b. Heb. 4:12-“For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”
2. Scripture is God’s will and, therefore, is an effective prayer.
  - a. 1 John 5:14-“And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.”
  - b. Is. 55:11-“So shall my word be which goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me empty without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.”

#### F. Believe that God Can Do What You Have Asked.

1. Matt. 21:22-“And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive.”
2. Jer. 32:17-“Nothing is too difficult for Thee,...”
3. Rev. 21:5-“And He who sits on the throne says, “Behold I am making all things new.””  
(Note: “am making”, not will make, made or have made, but “am making”—an on-going process.)

#### G. Pray in Agreement with a Brother or Sister in Christ

Matt. 18:19-“Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father Who is in heaven.”

#### H. Stand Firm in Your Intercession, Turning Neither to the Left nor to the Right

Eph. 6:13-“...and have done everything, to stand firm.”

### V. SCRIPTURES FOR INTERCESSION

- A. For our government-1 Tim. 2:2-3

- B. For your city-Jer. 29:7
- C. For your church-2 Thes. 1:11-12; Col. 3:12-17; Col. 2:6-12
- D. For church leaders-Phil. 1:27; Eph. 4:11-16; Is. 11:2-3
- E. For the needs of your church-Matt. 9:36-38; Matt. 6:8
- F. For a brother or sister in Christ who is in sin-1 John 5:16; Col. 1:9-12; Eph. 1:16-19
- G. For salvation for the unsaved-Job. 22:30; Eph. 2:4-7; John 20:22-23; John 3:17-18; Is. 52:15b
- H. For financial needs-Matt. 6:8; Matt. 6:31-33
- I. For healing-Is. 53:4 & 6; Matt. 10:1
- J. For troubled marriages
- K. For the wayward child

### FACT & FANTASY OF INTERCESSION

A fact of intercession is anything that can be scripturally supported. A fantasy of intercession is not supported by scripture.

#### 1. Is travail real?

Yes. Scripturally, the intercessor mourns (Joel 2:12) and travails (Is. 26:16 & 17; John 16:21; Gal. 4:19). Both words together indicate a very deep feeling of sorrow together with active birthing of new out of old. The intercessor, therefore, is grieved by sin (mourning) and is willing to strive and labor in the spirit (travail) to see sin changed into purity. God is delighted with such travail and hastens to perform the miracle of change. (Is. 66:8-9-“As soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her sons. Shall I bring to the point of birth, and not give deliver” says the Lord. “Or shall I who gives delivery shut the womb?” says your God.)

#### 2. What about all of the weeping and groaning I’ve heard about—is it part of intercessory prayer?

Yes. Except we won’t say “all” the weeping and groanings. There is scriptural support that the Spirit intercedes for us “with groanings” (Rom. 8:26) and the word “weeping” is used innumerable times in the Bible to indicate a sorrow of great depth. (See the story of Hannah, mother of Samuel in 1 Sam. 1). However, intercession also involves a lot more than weeping and groaning.

#### 3. I’ve heard stories of growling, screaming and hysterics—are these acceptable in intercessory prayer?

Absolutely not. In fact, not one of these words is found anywhere in scripture in any context. If you see such things simply take the authority over a spirit of disruption in the Name of Jesus and move on.

#### 4. The what about shouting, laughing and rejoicing?

You’re back in the ball park with these things. Scripture supports all three. God used shouting to bring down the walls of Jericho (Josh. 6:5-20). When the foundation of the second temple was laid after the captivity, the people shouted as they praised the Lord for it (Ezra 3:11). We are told in Psalm 47:1 to shout unto God with a voice of triumph. What is that triumph—victory over the devil made possible through intercession!

Jesus told us we would be blessed when we wept (see #2) “for they shall laugh” (Luke 6:21). When we weep in intercession and travail, God will bring victory and we shall laugh in delight.

When we are victorious over the enemy, we have a right to rejoice. 2 Chronicles 20:27 says, “...for the Lord had made them to rejoice over their enemies.”

Psalm 5:11 (KJV) tells us to “let all those that put their trust in Thee rejoice.” When we have interceded, we trust in God to make it right, therefore we are to rejoice!

5. I've been taught that each sound made in travail has a specific meaning. Is this right?

First of all, travail is many times made in words of English (our native tongue), as well prayer languages. When it becomes “groanings too deep for words” it is not unusual to see a person with tears streaming unable to utter a sound. No place in scripture do we find ANYTHING to indicate such a thing as a meaning to each sound of travail, any more than you can find the meaning of each word of a prayer language.

6. God will answer every prayer by giving me what I ask if I pray just right, won't He?

YES. The trick here is to “pray just right”—in His will (1 John 5:14). If your desire lines up with God's will, which is set forth in His word, then He will grant your petition. If a friend has asked you to intercede for something contrary to scripture, don't waste your time.

7. Can I change a person's will through intercession?

No. But you can tear down the veil blinding his spiritual eyes and plugging his spiritual ears so that the Holy Spirit can get close enough to him (or her) to do His precious work. Ephesians 1:18 states, “I pray that the eyes of your heart (understanding) may be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe...”

8. The feeling of having “prayed it through”, is that fact or fantasy?

Paul referred to the church in Galatia as his children “with whom I am again in labor until Christ is formed in you--...” (Gal. 4:19). When one is in labor (travail) one is moving with the Spirit to such an extent that physical exertion is felt—that's why it's called labor. When there is a release in your spirit from that travail, REST IN GOD (having done everything, stand firm—Eph. 6:13). If you have not entered into travail, you will not feel the release from the burden. If you haven't successfully broken through the enemy's stronghold, there will be no release from the burden. You will NOT travail on everything you pray for in intercessory prayer, but in order to be a successful intercessor you must continue to travail “until Christ is formed” into the person or situation for which you are interceding. Feel free to move in and out of such travail over a number of hours, weeks, months, years—as the Holy Spirit moves.

9. If I intercede for someone, won't I take their sin on myself?

NO, NO, NO! The only scriptural reference to an intercessor taking the sins of the party for whom he is interceding is in regard to Jesus Christ, who took your sins and mine with Him to the cross. There is no scripture that even suggests that the intercessor bears the sin of the one for whom he is praying.

