

Grace to You :: *esp Unleashing God's Truth, One Verse at a Time*

A Pattern of Prayer from a Man of Prayer

Scripture: Daniel 9:1–19

Code: B121016

What drives people to pray? Is it superstitious beliefs, religious rituals, or spiritual needs? Are they searching for some mystical experience, or do they simply expect God to grant their wishes?

Sadly, it's not just nonbelievers who approach prayer in such subjective and selfish ways. Plenty of people who claim to love the Lord have prayer lives that strongly contradict those claims. They speak to the Lord as though He exists only to fulfill their desires, fix their problems, and heal their hurts. Others believe there is something meritorious about the act of praying itself—they do it so they can say they've done it.

And as we saw yesterday, some people even try to use prayer as a means for making mystical contact with the Lord and receiving personal, subjective messages from Him.

If you truly belong to the Lord, you cannot afford to have a skewed, unbiblical view of prayer. You must guard against false teachers and false methods of devotion to God. Our prayer life is a vital part of our spiritual growth, so rather than scuffling through or making it up as we go along, believers must follow the biblical patterns the Lord has given us in His Word.

And when it comes to prayer, you'd have a hard time finding a more consistent, trustworthy example than the prophet Daniel.

In his sermon "A Pattern of Prayer from a Man of Prayer," John MacArthur examines the life of Daniel and his faithful devotion to prayer. He also highlights several principles that guide and define a biblical prayer life, and how you can put those principles to work. Here's a short excerpt:

<audio>

In this powerful, encouraging message, John MacArthur will show you how true, biblical prayer is:

- generated by God's Word
- grounded in God's will
- characterized by fervency
- identified with God's people
- built on confession
- dependent on God's character
- driven by God's glory

You can instantly download or stream "[A Pattern of Prayer from a Man of Prayer](#)" free of charge.

And if you're interested in more teaching on the biblical models and patterns for prayer, you can read John's past blog series [*Steps to Successful Prayer*](#), or his book [*At the Throne of Grace*](#).

Available online at: <http://www.gty.org>

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