

What Saith the Scripture?

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Intercession Promises: Casting The Net

Or, Help in Becoming Fishers of Men

"And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after Me, and I will make you to become fishers of men"
(Mark 1:17).

by Katie Stewart
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Preface

When the LORD Jesus Christ subjected Himself to men, it was to fulfill the yearning of His heart, "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). He desires us to follow His lead. "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps" (1Peter 2:21). In following His steps, you become obedient to His will. Thus you fulfill the conditions necessary for claiming the Precious Promises, which He Providentially puts into your path. There are always conditions to be met in any contract. And participating with the LORD Jesus in the "Better Covenant" with "Better Promises" means obedience on your part. But no contract/covenant was ever fulfilled in such heart-felt abundance, as the **benefits** that come from a partnership with the LORD GOD ALMIGHTY. "He is The Mediator of a **Better** Covenant, which was established upon **Better** Promises" (Hebrews 8:6).

And "what shall I render unto the LORD for all His benefits toward me? I will take the cup of Salvation [for myself, and by intercession, for others], and call upon the Name of the LORD" (Psalm 116:12-13). Our LORD beckons to us to enter into an Intercessory Covenant with Him. His Love He supplies as the foundational premise. His Blood He puts down to cover the debt. His Intercession for us ensures our success. And all that's required for us to begin this "joint venture", is, in love, to **follow Him**. "As He walked by the sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And Jesus said unto them, **Come ye after Me, and I will make you to become fishers of men**. And straightway they forsook **their** nets, and **followed Him**" (Mark 1:16-18). If we want to please our LORD, and follow His example, then we must leave-off using our own useless nets. Imitate the ways of our Saviour. Make Him to be the object of our attention, our vision, because without Him, "there is no vision, [and] "the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18). But in "looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith" (Hebrews 12:2), we not only find Our Way, but The Way for others. And we will find that His "free Gift... the Gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, **hath abounded unto many**" (Romans 5:15). The souls of men are the reward of His increase. For if Jesus Christ is the Net with which we use to catch men, then they will be truly and eternally caught!

*"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His **benefits**"*
(Psalm 103:2).

His Promises Are The Threads In His Net

Since faith is the only thing that we can do to please God, for "without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a Rewarder of them that **diligently** seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6), and since our King Jesus honours His Word above **all** of His wonderful Name, "for Thou hast magnified Thy WORD above all Thy Name" (Psalm 138:2), then **there is no more pleasing thing we can do for Him than to believe in the Absolute Strength of His Promise**. And the Absolute Strength of His Promise equals the Absolute Strength that our Net will have as we cast His WORD over the souls of men and He draws them in to Himself.

"Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last."*

This Omnipotent Net will never break. He will not lose that which is H(Isaiah "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our LORD" (Romans 8:38-39). If the Promise is Sure, then the Net is Strong, and your confidence Secure. "And this is the **confidence that we have in Him**, that, if we ask any thing according to His will, He heareth us" (1John 5:14). Thus equipped with an Eternally Strong Net, we now ask, "How do we cast this Wonderfully Strong Net?"

The Net of His Promises: Cast Over the Souls of Men by *Intercession*

The LORD Jesus is **our** Great Intercessor.

- (1John 2:1) "If any man sin, **we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ The Righteous.**"
- (John 14:16) "And **I [Jesus] will pray the Father, and He shall give you** another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever."
- (Romans 8:34) "**It is Christ** that died, yea rather, that is risen again, Who is even at the right hand of God, **Who also maketh intercession for us.**"
- (1Timothy 2:5) "For there is one God, and **one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.**"
- (Jeremiah 2:9) "Wherefore **I will yet plead with you, saith the LORD, and with your children's children will I plead.**"
- (Hebrews 7:25) "Wherefore He [Jesus] is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing **He ever liveth to make intercession for them.**"
- (Hebrews 9:24) "For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands... but into Heaven itself, now **to appear in the presence of God for us.**"

- (Psalms 55:22) "**Cast thy burden upon the LORD**, and He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."
- (1John 2:12) "...your sins are forgiven you **for His Name's sake**."
- (Isaiah 63:9) "**In all their affliction He was afflicted**, and the angel of His presence saved them: in His love and in His pity **He redeemed them**; and **He bare them, and carried them** all the days of old."

The LORD Jesus understands how often we have failed Him in the past.

- (2Chronicles 16:9) "For the eyes of the LORD **run to and fro throughout the whole Earth, to show Himself strong** in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him."
- (Isaiah 59:16) "And He saw that there was no man, and wondered that **there was no intercessor**."
- (Isaiah 63:5) "And I looked, and there was **none to help**; and I wondered that there was **none to uphold**."
- (Philippians 2:20-21) "For I have **no man like-minded**, who will naturally care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's."
- (Ezekiel 22:30) "And I sought for a man among them, that should **make up the hedge**, and **stand in the gap before Me for the land**, that I should not destroy it: but **I found none**."
- (Ezekiel. 13:5) "Ye have not gone up **into the gaps**, neither **made up the hedge** for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the Day of the LORD."
- (Psalms 142:4) "I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was **no man** that would know me... **no man cared** for my soul."
- (Ecclesiastes 4:1) "So I returned, and considered all the oppressions that are done under the sun: and behold the tears of such as were oppressed, and **they had no comforter**; and on the side of their oppressors there was power; **but they had no comforter**."

The LORD Jesus needs us in this partnership of intercession.

- (Isaiah 58:6) "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to **loose the bands of wickedness**, to **undo the heavy burdens**, and to **let the oppressed go free**, and **that ye break every yoke**?"
- (Genesis 45:7) "And **God sent me before you to preserve you** a posterity in the Earth, and to **save your lives** by a great deliverance."
- (Isaiah 1:17) "Learn to do well; **seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow**."
- (Galatians 4:19) "My little children, of whom **I travail in birth again** until Christ be formed in you."

- (1Corinthians 4:15) "...in Christ Jesus **I have begotten you** through the Gospel."
- (1Corinthians 9:1,19) "...are not **ye my work** in the LORD? ...For though I be free from all men, yet have **I made myself servant unto all**, that I might gain the more."
- (Galatians 6:2) "**Bear ye one another's burdens**, and so fulfil the law of Christ."
- (2Corinthians 4:5) "For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the LORD; and **ourselves your servants** for Jesus' sake."
- (Galatians 5:13) "...by love **serve** one another."
- (Psalms 126:5) "They that sow in tears **shall reap in joy**."
- (Luke 10:34) "And **went to him**, and **bound up** his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and **set him** on his own beast, and **brought him** to an inn, and **took care** of him."
- (Matthew 7:7-8) "**Ask**, and it shall be given you; **seek**, and ye shall find; **knock**, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh **receiveth**; and he that seeketh **findeth**; and to him that knocketh **it shall be opened**."

Intercession is the act of,

First, putting yourself sacrificially in someone else's situation by having compassion on their physical and spiritual conditions, willingly sacrificing for others: your time, your effort, and pain-- even physical life itself, if Providence dictates-- in like fashion as Jesus did for us.

"Greater **love** hath no man than this, that a man **lay down his life** for his friends" (John 15:13).

Second, laying claim to the Promises which will so richly answer the problem. "Let the **WORD** of Christ **dwelt in you richly** in all Wisdom" (Colossians 3:16).

Third, persevering in faith until the petition is answered. "**I will not let thee go**, except Thou bless me" (Genesis 32:26). And,

Fourth, being led by the Spirit of God to those who are "**heirs of Salvation?**" (Hebrews 1:14) and "**elect** according to the foreknowledge of God the Father" (1Peter 1:2).

Putting Yourself Sacrificially In Someone Else's Situation

As the Saviour of a sinning world, our Jesus had to enter this world **in the same way** that those of us who need His help have entered.

- (Romans 1:3) "Concerning His [God the Father's] Son Jesus Christ our LORD, which was **made of the seed of David according to the flesh**..."
- (John 1:14) "And the Word was **made flesh**, and dwelt **among us**."

- (John 18:37) "To this end was **I born**, and for this cause **came I into the world**, that I should bear witness unto the Truth."
- (Galatians 4:4) "God sent forth His Son, **made of a woman**, made under the Law."
- (Philippians 2:7) "But made Himself of **no reputation**, and took upon Him **the form of a servant**, and was **made in the likeness of men**."

As the Saviour of a sinning world, our Jesus **stood in the place** of sinning men-- never sinning Himself, yet bearing sin's penalty for all who did sin.

- (Philippians 2:8) "And being found in fashion as a man, He **humbled** Himself, and **became obedient unto death**, even the death of the Cross."
- (Hebrews 2:14) "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, **He also Himself likewise took part of the same**; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil."

Following his Saviour's example, Paul stood in the place of sinning men when he said,

- (Romans 9:3) "I could wish **that myself were accursed from Christ** for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh."
- (Romans 11:14) "If **by any means I may provoke to emulation** them which are my flesh, and might save some of them."
- (1Corinthians 9:1,19,22) "...are not **ye my work** in the LORD? ...yet have **I made myself servant unto all**, that I might gain the more... To the weak **became I as weak**, that I might gain the weak: **I am made all things to all men**, that I might by all means **save some**."
- (1Corinthians 10:33) "Even as **I please all men in all things**, not seeking mine own profit, but **the profit of many**, that they **may be saved**."

And, even though he preceded the LORD Jesus in the historical timeline of man, Moses knew his Saviour-- and imitated His intercession for others.

- (Exodus 32:31-33) "And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. Yet now, if Thou wilt forgive their sin--; and if not, **blot me, I pray Thee, out of Thy Book** which Thou hast written. And the LORD said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against Me, him will I blot out of My Book."

Jesus became one in bonds with those upon whom He had **compassion**.

- (Matthew 25:36) "Naked, and ye clothed **Me**: I was sick, and ye visited **Me**: I was in prison, and ye came unto **Me**."

Again, following his Saviour's example, Paul said,

- (Hebrews 13:3) "Remember them that are in bonds, **as bound with them**; and them which suffer adversity, **as being yourselves also in the body**."
- (Hebrews 10:34) "For **ye had compassion of me in my bonds**, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods..."
- (Romans 15:1) "We then that are strong **ought to bear** the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves."

And James said,

- (James 2:15-16) "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding **ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?**"

And Jude,

- (Jude 1:22-23) "And **of some have compassion, making a difference**: And others **save with fear, pulling them out of the fire**; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh."

Laying Claim To The Promises: The Threads In His Net

Of course, be sure you are free of known sin-- coming before the Throne of Grace with a clean heart.

- (2Corinthians 7:1) "Having therefore these Promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from **all filthiness of the flesh and spirit**, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."
- (Psalms 66:18) "If I **regard iniquity in my heart**, the LORD will **not** hear me."
- (James 4:17) "Therefore to him that **knoweth** to do good, and **doeth it not**, to him it is **sin**."
- (2Peter 1:4) "Whereby are given unto us Exceeding Great And Precious Promises: that **by These ye might be partakers of the Divine Nature**, having **escaped the corruption** that is in the world through **lust**."

Once you understand the individual's trouble, you can then ask the LORD for His Wisdom in helping this person. While in prayer, ask the LORD for a Promise that fits the situation.

- (James 1:5) "If any of you lack Wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men **liberally**, and upbraideth not; and **It shall be given** him."

Have the **confidence** in your heart, which faith *will require*, in knowing that **ALL the Promises are available for ANY situation**. ALL the Promises are given to ALL the righteous for application to ALL the people, and ALL the problems, that the Holy Spirit directs you to have intercessory

compassion upon.

- (2Corinthians 1:20) "For **all** the Promises of God in Him [Jesus] are **yea**, and in Him **Amen**, unto the glory of God **by us**."
- (2Timothy 3:16-17) "**All Scripture** is given by inspiration of God, and **is profitable** for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, **thoroughly furnished** unto **all** good works."
- (Hebrews 8:6) "But now hath He [Jesus Christ] obtained a **more** excellent ministry, by how much also He is The Mediator of a **Better** Covenant, which was established upon **Better** Promises."

Remember: **Faith requires confidence in Jesus Christ, Whose "Name is called The WORD of God"** (Revelation 19:13).

- (1John 5:14-15) "And this is the **confidence** that we have in Him, that, if we ask **any thing according to His will** [and His WORD is His will], **He heareth us**: And if we **know** that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we **know** that we **have the petitions** that we desired of Him."

Persevering In Faith Until The Petition Is Answered

The petition is the request for which you have claimed God's own WORD-- a Promise. The petition is, that He **will do** what **you claimed** His Promise said He would do for the person or problem.

- (Isaiah 45:11) "Thus saith the LORD... Ask Me of things to come concerning My sons, and concerning the work of My hands **command ye Me**."
- (Psalms 20:5) "The LORD fulfil **all** thy petitions."
- (Acts 27:25) "Be of good cheer: for **I believe God**, that **it shall be** even as **it was told me**."
- (Jeremiah 12:1) "Righteous art Thou, O LORD, **when I plead with Thee**: yet let me talk with Thee of Thy Judgments."

Persevering in faith, or prevailing in prayer, means that you won't give up faith to receive the desired result. You will "continue in faith" until the LORD does what **He promised** to do!

- (Colossians 1:23) "...**continue in the faith grounded and settled**, and be **not** moved away from **the hope**... which ye have heard, and which was preached..."
- (2Timothy 3:14) "But **continue** thou in the things which thou hast learned and **hast been assured of**, knowing **of whom** thou hast learned them."
- (2Timothy 1:12) "For **I know Whom I have believed**, and am persuaded that **He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him** against that day."
- (Acts 14:22) "**Confirming** the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them **to continue in the**

faith..."

- (Colossians 4:2) "**Continue in prayer**, and watch in the same with thanksgiving."

Nothing outside of yourself can stop you-- nothing outside of yourself will stop you-- when your faith is anchored in the Promises made by God. But you can stop your own efforts-- by NOT continuing to believe God!

- (Hebrews 6:12) "That ye **be not slothful**, but followers of them who **through faith and patience** inherit the Promises."
- (Genesis 32:28) "...as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and **hast prevailed**."
- (Proverbs 12:24) "The hand of the **diligent** shall bear rule."
- (Matthew 11:12) "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the Kingdom of Heaven suffereth violence, and **the violent take it by force**."
- (Luke 18:5-7) "Yet because this widow **troubleth me**, I will avenge her, lest by her **continual coming** she weary me. And the Lord said, **Hear** what the unjust judge saith. And **shall not God avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him, though He bear long with them?**"
- (Ephesians 6:18) "Praying **always** with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and **watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication** for all saints."

Being Led By The Spirit To Those Who Are Elect

The LORD expects us to pray for **all** men.

- (1Timothy 2:1) "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for **all** men."

The petition should often be for Christians.

- (Romans 8:27) "He [the Spirit] maketh intercession **for the saints** according to the will of God."
- (Galatians 6:10) "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, **especially** unto them who are of the household of faith."

Inasmuch as, "God so **loved the world**, that He gave His only begotten Son" (John 3:16), He did also say, "I have created the waster **to destroy**" (Isaiah 54:16). It is by the Holy Spirit that we "by reason of use have [our] senses exercised to **discern** both good and evil" (Hebrews 5:14). How much of the unsaved world can we claim Salvation for? How wide can our Net be cast?

While it is true that during The Millennium, **all the world** will worship our LORD...

- (Psalms 22:27) "**All the ends of the world** shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and **all the kindreds of the nations** shall worship before Thee."
- (Psalms 67:7) "God shall bless us; and **all the ends of the earth** shall fear Him."

...it is also true, that **before** Christ's Millennium starts, He has shown us that we are **not** to pray for, nor expect, the Salvation of the **entire** world--

- (John 17:9) "I pray for them: I pray **not** for the world, **but for them which Thou hast given Me**; for they are Thine."
- (Mark 16:16) "He that believeth and is baptized **shall be saved**; but he that believeth not **shall be damned**."

Interceding for an individual you know personally gives you an advantage of tailoring the Promises perfectly to the needs of that person.

Example--

- For a **fearful** person: (John 14:27) "**Peace** I leave with you, **My peace** I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. **Let not** your heart be troubled, **neither let it be afraid**."
- For a **lonely** person: (Hebrews 13:5) "He hath said, I will **never leave thee, nor forsake thee**."
- For a **sick** person: (Matthew 8:17) "Himself **took** our infirmities, and **bare** our sicknesses."

Interceding for a group complicates the tailoring of the Promises, but can still be easily achieved by the broad range the LORD has provided in many of His general Promises.

- (John 14:13-14) "And **whatsoever** ye shall ask in My Name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask **any thing** in My Name, I will do it."
- (John 16:23) "Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Whatsoever** ye shall ask the Father in My Name, He will give it you."
- (Matthew 21:22) "And **all things, whatsoever** ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."
- (John 15:7) "If ye abide in Me, and My Words abide in you, ye shall ask **what ye will**, and it shall be done unto you."
- (Ephesians 3:20) "Now unto Him that is able to do **exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think**, according to the power that worketh in us..."
- (Hebrews 4:16) "Let us therefore come **boldly** unto the Throne of Grace, that we may **obtain mercy, and find grace** to help in time of need."

How do you know the Holy Spirit is directing you to a certain person or problem?

- (Isaiah 30:21) "And thine ears shall hear a WORD behind thee, saying, **This is The Way, walk ye in it**, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."
- (Proverbs 16:9) "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD **directeth** his ste(Psalms"
- (Proverbs 3:5-6) "Trust in the LORD with **all** thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways **acknowledge Him**, and **He shall direct thy paths.**"

Desires are clues of **who** to pray for, because the LORD Jesus directs His people by Providence, and **righteous desires are Providential.**

Prepared by the LORD--

- (Proverbs 16:1) "The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, **is from the LORD.**"
- (Psalms 33:11) "The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, **the thoughts of His heart** to all generations."
- (Ezra 7:27) "Blessed be the LORD God of our fathers, which **hath put such a thing as this in the king's heart...**"
- (Psalms 10:17) "LORD, Thou hast heard the desire of the humble: Thou wilt **prepare their heart**, Thou wilt cause Thine ear to hear."
- (1Chronicles 29:18) "O LORD God... **keep this for ever in the imagination of the thoughts of the heart of thy people**, and **prepare their heart** unto Thee."

Secured by the LORD--

- (Psalms 37:4) "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and **He shall give thee the desires of thine heart.**"
- (Proverbs 10:24) "The desire of the righteous **shall be granted.**"
- (Psalms 145:19) "**He will fulfil the desire of them that fear Him**: He also will hear their cry, and will save them."
- (Isaiah 57:19) "**I create** the fruit of the li(Psalms"
- (Psalms 21:2) "Thou hast **given him his heart's desire**, and hast **not withholden** the request of his lips."
- (Proverbs 15:8) "The prayer of the upright **is His delight.**"
- (Proverbs 11:23) "The desire of the righteous is **only good.**"
- (Proverbs 10:28) "The hope of the righteous shall **be gladness.**"

Suggested Ways in Which the Net May Be Cast Over the Elect- A Wide Cast Or, Ideas On How To Use Scripture For Intercession

When you pray, whether its for an individual or a group, take into consideration the Christ-like merits the individual or group may have, which can work for their good. For example, if a person has had a **generous** tendency in their character, then remind the LORD that He said He would reward people according to their works and faith, and ask for a **generous** portion of mercy in their behalf. Perhaps you don't know the person or group well enough to know of any merits to advocate in their behalf, then all you can ask is for a "space to repent" (Revelation 2:21).

- (Revelation 22:12) "And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, **to give every man according as his work shall be.**"
- (1Corinthians 3:8) "every man shall receive his own reward **according to his own labour.**"
- (Matthew 9:29) "Then touched He their eyes, saying, **According to your faith be it unto you.**"
- (Romans 12:3) "think soberly, according as God **hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.**"
- (Titus 1:1-3) "**According to the faith of God's elect**, and the acknowledging of the Truth which is after Godliness; in hope of Eternal Life, **which God, that cannot lie, promised** before the world began; but hath in **due times** manifested His Word."

Christ's finished work of Redemption on His Cross is the foundation for the advocacy work He carries on for us. Without the Precious Sacrifice of His Life-Giving Blood we would have no chance, no advocacy floor on which to stand. But since "he that winneth souls is Wise" (Proverbs 11:30) in the Wisdom and Counsel of the WORD, we know that it is the LORD Himself that offers the intercessor the opportunity to plead for the Godless elect-- not "*established*" on the basis of any Christ-like (yet unrepentant) characteristics they may have yielded to in their lives-- but yet, **influenced** by whatever Godly tendencies the person did **allow** in their lives. This is a very generous tool for the LORD to allow us to have in our work of intercession.

- (Nehemiah 13:14,22) "Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done... Remember me, O my God, concerning this also, and spare me **according to the greatness of Thy mercy.**"
- (Psalms 106:4) "Remember me, O LORD, with the **favour** that Thou bearest unto Thy people: O **visit me with Thy Salvation.**"
- (Luke 23:42) "And he said unto Jesus, LORD, **remember me** when Thou comest into Thy Kingdom."

The desired goal of our intercession for the unrepentant is that, one day, they will cry out themselves to the LORD, SOLELY on the basis of **His** Character--

- (Psalms 51:1) A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, **after** he had gone in to

Bathsheba. *"Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions."*

- (Psalms 106:45) "And **He remembered for them His Covenant**, and repented **according to the multitude of His mercies.**"
- (Psalms 109:26) "Help me, O LORD my God: O save me **according to Thy mercy.**"
- (Psalms 119:88) "Quicken me **after Thy lovingkindness**; so shall I keep the Testimony of Thy mouth."
- (Psalms 119:149) "Hear my voice **according unto Thy lovingkindness**: O LORD, quicken me **according to Thy Judgment.**"

A few examples of Scripture-based Intercession--

For the brethren:

- (Ephesians 1:16-19) "Cease not to give thanks for you, **making mention of you in my prayers**; That the God of our LORD Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give unto you the Spirit of Wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him**: The eyes of your understanding **being enlightened**; that ye **may know what is the hope of His calling**, and **what the riches of the glory of His inheritance** in the saints, And **what is the exceeding greatness of His Power to us-ward who believe**, according to **the working of His mighty Power.**"
- (Jude 24) "Unto Him that is able **to keep you from falling**, and **to present you faultless** before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy..."
- (2Peter 1:10) "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to **make your calling and election sure**: for if ye do these things, **ye shall never fall.**"
- (2Peter 3:17) "Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, **beware** lest ye also, **being led away** with the error of the wicked, **fall from your own stedfastness.**"

For the Backslider:

- (Ezekiel 17:20) "And **I will spread My Net upon him**, and **he shall be taken in My Snare**, and I will bring him to Babylon, and **will plead with him there** for his trespass that he hath trespassed against Me."
- (Ezekiel 20:35-36) "And **I will bring you into the wilderness** of the people, and **there will I plead with you face to face**. Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, **so will I plead with you, saith the LORD GOD.**"
- (Isaiah 1:4,18) "Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward... **Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD**: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;

though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

- (Jeremiah 2:19) "**Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee:** know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and bitter, that thou hast forsaken the LORD thy God, and that My fear is not in thee, saith the LORD GOD of hosts."
- (1Corinthians 5:5) "To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, **that the spirit may be saved** in the Day of the LORD Jesus."
- (Philippians 1:6) "Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you **will perform it until the Day of Jesus Christ:**"

Salvation for the elect of the world, in general:

- (Acts 16:31) "And they said, Believe on the LORD Jesus Christ, and **thou shalt be saved, and thy house.**"
- (Psalms 20:5) "**We will rejoice in thy Salvation,** and in the Name of our God we will set up our banners..."
- (Romans 9:23) "And that He might make known the riches of His glory **on the vessels of mercy,** which He had afore **prepared unto glory.**"

For the elect sinner:

- (Psalms 25:8) "Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will He **teach sinners** in the way."

For the elect people on the edge of death:

- (Numbers 23:10) "Let me die the death **of the righteous,** and let my last end **be like his!**"
- (Psalms 48:14) "For **this God is our God** for ever and ever: **He will be our Guide even unto death.**"

For the elect meek:

- (Psalms 25:9) "The meek will He **guide in judgment:** and the meek will He **teach His way.**"

For the elect divisive:

- (Isaiah 29:24) "They also that erred in spirit **shall come to understanding,** and they that murmured **shall learn doctrine.**"

For the elect hopeless:

- (Isaiah 35:8) "And **an highway shall be there, and a way,** and it shall be called The way of holiness..."

For the elect blind-- spiritually blind, as well as physically blind:

- (Isaiah 42:16) "And **I will bring the blind** by a way that they knew not; **I will lead them** in paths that they have not known: **I will make darkness light before them**, and **crooked things straight**. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them."
- (1Peter 2:9) "But **ye are a chosen generation**, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that **ye** should show forth the praises of Him Who hath **called you out of darkness into His marvellous Light**."

For the elect prisoners:

- (Psalms 107:9-10) "For He **satisfieth the longing soul**, and **filleteth the hungry soul** with goodness. Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, being bound in affliction and iron."
- (Psalms 146:7) "The LORD **looseth** the prisoners."
- (Isaiah 61:1) "The Spirit of the LORD GOD is upon me... to proclaim **liberty to the captives**, and the **opening of the prison** to them that are bound."

For the Helpful:

- (Genesis 12:3) "And I will **bless them** that bless thee."
- (1Thessalonians 5:13) "And to **esteem them very highly in love** for their work's sake."
- (Psalms 62:12) "O LORD... Thou renderest to every man **according to his work**."

For the elect descendants of your favorite hymn writers:

- (Isaiah 26:19) "**Awake and sing**, ye that dwell in dust."
- (Psalms 96:1) "O sing unto the LORD a **new** song."

For friendly grocery workers:

- (Psalms 78:19,25) "Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?... Man **did eat angels' food**."

For a brother:

- (Luke 15:32) "It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this **thy brother was dead, and is alive** again; and **was lost, and is found**."

For a sister:

- (1Corinthians 9:5) "Have we not **power to lead** about a sister...?"

For your children:

- (Proverbs 22:6) "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, **he will not**

depart from it."

- (Psalms 12:7) "Thou shalt **keep them, O LORD**, thou shalt **preserve them from this generation for ever.**"
- (Genesis 18:19) "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and **they shall keep the way of the LORD**, to do justice and judgment."
- (Deuteronomy 6:6-7) "And these words, which I command thee this day, **shall be in thine heart**: and thou shalt teach them **diligently** unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."
- (2Timothy 3:15) "And that **from a child thou hast known** the holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee **wise unto Salvation** through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

For elect movie stars:

- (Romans 13:7-8) "Render therefore to all their **dues**... Owe no man any thing, but to **love** one another."
- (Acts 3:6) "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have **give I thee: In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up**..."
- (Genesis 22:17) "I will **bless** thee... as the stars of the **heaven**..."

For elect survivors of the Holocaust:

- (Romans 11:5) "Even so then at this present time [by Providence] also there is **a remnant according to the election of grace.**"
- (Job 29:2) "...as in the days when **God preserved me**..."
- (Isaiah 49:6) "...to **restore the preserved** of Israel..."
- (2Corinthians 4:9-10) "Persecuted, but **not forsaken**; cast down, but **not destroyed**; Always bearing about in the body the dying of the LORD Jesus, **that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest** in our body."

For the elect undefiled at the Last Trump:

- (Psalms 119:1) "**Blessed** are the undefiled **in The Way**, who walk in the Law of the LORD."
- (1Peter 1:4-5) "To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, **reserved in Heaven for you**, who are **kept by the power of God through faith unto Salvation** ready to be revealed in the last time."

For the elect worldwide that are in never-ending comas:

- (Isaiah 6:5,7) "...mine eyes **have seen** the King, the LORD of hosts... thine iniquity is **taken away**, and **thy sin purged.**"
- (Psalms 17:15) "As for me, **I will behold Thy face in righteousness**: I shall be satisfied, when I **awake, with Thy likeness.**"

- (1Corinthians 15:34) "**Awake to righteousness.**"
- (Psalms 121:1) "**I will lift up mine eyes** unto the hills, from whence cometh my Help."

For elect war vets that have been preserved in traumatic combat:

- (2Corinthians 7:5-6) "...we were troubled on every side; without were fightings, within were fears. Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, **comforted us...**"
- (Psalms 72:14) "He shall **redeem their soul from deceit and violence**: and precious shall their blood be in His sight."

For the elect forgotten old people who have showed mercy in their lives:

- (Matthew 5:7) "Blessed are the merciful: for **they shall obtain mercy.**"
- (Proverbs 16:31) "The hoary head **is a crown of glory**, if it be found in the way of righteousness."
- (Psalms 103:2,4-50) "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits... Who **redeemeth** thy life from destruction; Who **crowne**th thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who **satisfieth** thy mouth with good things; **so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.**"

For the Tribulation Martyrs:

- (Psalms 40:3) "And He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: **many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.**"
- (Psalms 22:25) "My praise shall be of Thee **in the great congregation:**"

For a great harvest at the Rapture:

- (Psalms 126:6) "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, **bringing his sheaves with him.**"
- (Exodus 3:21-22) "I will give this people favour... and it shall come to pass, that, when ye go, **ye shall not go empty...** ye shall **spoil** the Egyptians."

That Israel's blindness be lifted:

- (Romans 11:25-27) "That blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so **all Israel shall be saved**: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is My Covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins."
- (Isaiah 66:8) "Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for **as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.**"
- (Nehemiah 12:43) "They offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for **God had made them rejoice with great joy**: the wives also and the children rejoiced: so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off."

Conclusion

Hopefully, there is time left for us to help at least **one** person. There is not much time. But wouldn't it be wonderful if even just **one** person could know and love our LORD? If they could know His generous nature, His tenderness and watchfulness of us. No detail in life is beyond His notice. His ever-present Comforter guides us on all our journey's way. His love for us, proved and tested, showers over us continually, in this life and in the Eternal Heavenly Mansions. His Hand works in all areas to promote us service, for in that way we honour and glorify the Father. But to those who don't know Him, tomorrow holds uncertainty and fear. "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away" (James 4:14).

A Christian's life is not his own. "For to me to live **is Christ**, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21). "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies **a living sacrifice**, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your **reasonable service**" (Romans 12:1). Don't deny "the LORD that **bought**" you-- at the costly price of His own Blood (2Peter 2:1).

A Vision of the Lost

William Booth

(1829 - 1912)

Founder of the Salvation Army

"**On one of my recent journeys**, as I gazed from the coach window, I was led into a train of thought concerning the condition of the multitudes around me. They were living carelessly in the most open and shameless rebellion against God, without a thought for their eternal welfare. As I looked out of the window, I seemed to see them all... millions of people all around me given up to their drink and their pleasure, their dancing and their music, their business and their anxieties, their politics and their troubles. Ignorant-willfully ignorant in many cases- and in other instances knowing all about the truth and not caring at all. But all of them, the whole mass of them, sweeping on and up in their blasphemies and devilries to the Throne of God. While my mind was thus engaged, I had a vision.

I saw a dark and stormy ocean. Over it the black clouds hung heavily; through them every now and then vivid lightening flashed and loud thunder rolled, while the winds moaned, and the waves rose and foamed, towered and broke, only to rise and foam, tower and break again.

In that ocean I thought I saw myriads of poor human beings plunging and floating, shouting and shrieking, cursing and struggling and drowning; and as they cursed and screamed they rose and shrieked again, and then some sank to rise no more.

And I saw out of this dark angry ocean, a mighty rock that rose up with it's summit

towering high above the black clouds that overhung the stormy sea. And all around the base of this great rock I saw a vast platform. Onto this platform, I saw with delight a number of the poor struggling, drowning wretches continually climbing out of the angry ocean. And I saw that a few of those who were already safe on the platform were helping the poor creatures still in the angry waters to reach the place of safety.

On looking more closely I found a number of those who had been rescued, industriously working and scheming by ladders, ropes, boats and other means more effective, to deliver the poor strugglers out of the sea. Here and there were some who actually jumped into the water, regardless of the consequences in their passion to 'rescue the perishing.' And I hardly know which gladdened me the most- the sight of the poor drowning people climbing onto the rocks reaching a place of safety, or the devotion and self-sacrifice of those whose whole being was wrapped up in the effort for their deliverance.

As I looked on, I saw that the occupants of that platform were quite a mixed company. That is, they were divided into different 'sets' or classes, and they occupied themselves with different pleasures and employments. But only a very few of them seemed to make it their business to get the people out of the sea.

But what puzzled me most was the fact that though all of them had been rescued at one time or another from the ocean, nearly everyone seemed to have forgotten all about it. Anyway, it seemed the memory of its darkness and danger no longer troubled them at all. And what seemed equally strange and perplexing to me was that these people did not even seem to have any care- that is any agonizing care- about the poor perishing ones who were struggling and drowning right before their very eyes... many of whom were their own husbands and wives, brothers and sisters and even their own children.

Now this astonishing unconcern could not have been the result of ignorance or lack of knowledge, because they lived right there in full sight of it all and even talked about it sometimes. Many even went regularly to hear lectures and sermons in which the awful state of these poor drowning creatures was described.

I have always said that the occupants of this platform were engaged in different pursuits and pastimes. Some of them were absorbed day and night in trading and business in order to make gain, storing up their savings in boxes, safes and the like.

Many spent their time in amusing themselves with growing flowers on the side of the rock, others in painting pieces of cloth or in playing music, or in dressing themselves up in different styles and walking about to be admired. Some occupied themselves chiefly in eating and drinking, others were taken up with arguing about the poor drowning creatures that had already been rescued.

But the thing to me that seemed the most amazing was that those on the platform to whom He called, who heard His voice and felt that they ought to obey it- at least they said they did- those who confessed to love Him much were in full sympathy with Him in

the task He had undertaken- who worshipped Him or who professed to do so- were so taken up with their trades and professions, their money saving and pleasures, their families and circles, their religions and arguments about it, and their preparation for going to the mainland, that they did not listen to the cry that came to them from this Wonderful Being who had Himself gone down into the sea. Anyway, if they heard it they did not heed it. They did not care. And so the multitude went on right before them struggling and shrieking and drowning in the darkness.

And then I saw something that seemed to me even more strange than anything that had gone on before in this strange vision. I saw that some of these people on the platform whom this Wonderful Being had called to, wanting them to come and help Him in His difficult task of saving these perishing creatures, were always praying and crying out to Him to come to them!

Some wanted Him to come and stay with them, and spend His time and strength in making them happier. Others wanted Him to come and take away various doubts and misgivings they had concerning the truth of some letters He had written them. Some wanted Him to come and make them feel more secure on the rock- so secure that they would be quite sure that they should never slip off again into the ocean. Numbers of others wanted Him to make them feel quite certain that they would really get off the rock and onto the mainland someday: because as a matter of fact, it was well known that some had walked so carelessly as to lose their footing, and had fallen back again into the stormy waters.

So these people used to meet and get up as high on the rock as they could, and looking towards the mainland (where they thought the Great Being was) they would cry out, 'Come to us! Come and help us!' And all the while He was down (by His Spirit) among the poor struggling, drowning creatures in the angry deep, with His arms around them trying to drag them out, and looking up- oh! so longingly but all in vain- to those on the rock, crying to them with His voice all hoarse from calling, 'Come to Me! Come, and help Me!

And then I understood it all. It was plain enough. The sea was the ocean of life- the sea of real, actual human existence. That lightning was the gleaming of piercing truth coming from Jehovah's Throne. That thunder was the distant echoing of the wrath of God. Those multitudes of people shrieking, struggling and agonizing in the stormy sea, was the thousands and thousands of poor harlots and harlot-makers, of drunkards and drunkard makers, of thieves, liars, blasphemers and ungodly people of every kindred, tongue and nation.

Oh what a black sea it was! And oh, what multitudes of rich and poor, ignorant and educated were there. They were all so unlike in their outward circumstances and conditions, yet all alike in one thing- all sinners before God- all held by, and holding onto, some iniquity, fascinated by some idol, the slaves of some devilish lust, and ruled by the foul fiend from the bottomless pit!

'All alike in one thing?' No, all alike in two things- not only the same in their wickedness but, unless rescued, the same in their sinking, sinking... down, down, down... to the same terrible doom. That great sheltering rock represented Calvary, the place where Jesus had died for them. And the people on it were those who had been rescued. The way they used their energies, gifts and time represented the occupations and amusements of those who professed to be saved from sin and hell- followers of the Lord Jesus Christ. The handful of fierce, determined ones, who were risking their own lives in saving the perishing were true soldiers of the cross of Jesus. That Mighty Being who was calling to them from the midst of the angry waters was the Son of God, 'the same yesterday, today and forever' who is still struggling and interceding to save the dying multitudes about us from this terrible doom of damnation, and whose voice can be heard above the music, machinery, and noise of life, calling on the rescued to come and help Him save the world.

My friends in Christ, you are rescued from the waters, you are on the rock, He is in the dark sea calling on you to come to Him and help Him. Will you go? Look for yourselves. The surging sea of life, crowded with perishing multitudes rolls up to the very spot on which you stand. Leaving the vision, I now come to speak of the fact- a fact that is as real as the Bible, as real as the Christ who hung upon the cross, as real as the judgment day will be, and as real as the heaven and hell that will follow it.

Look! Don't be deceived by appearances- men and things are not what they seem. All who are not on the rock are in the sea! Look at them from the standpoint of the great White Throne, and what a sight you have! Jesus Christ, the Son of God is, through His Spirit, in the midst of this dying multitude, struggling to save them. And He is calling on you to jump into the sea- to go right away to His side and help Him in the holy strife. Will you jump? That is, will you go to His feet and place yourself absolutely at His disposal?

A young Christian once came to me, and told me that for some time she had been giving the Lord her profession and prayers and money, but now she wanted to give Him her life. She wanted to go right into the fight. In other words, she wanted to go to His assistance in the sea. As when a man from the shore, seeing another struggling in the water, takes off those outer garments that would hinder his efforts and leaps to the rescue, so will you who still linger on the bank, thinking and singing and praying about the poor perishing souls, lay aside your shame, your pride, your cares about other people's opinions, your love of ease and all the selfish loves that have kept you back for so long, and rush to the rescue of this multitude of dying men and women.

Does the surging sea look dark and dangerous? Unquestionably it is so. There is no doubt that the leap for you, as for everyone who takes it, means difficulty and scorn and suffering. For you it may mean more than th(Isaiah It may mean death. He who beckons you from the sea however, knows what it will mean - and knowing, He still calls to you and bids to you to come.

You must do it! You cannot hold back. You have enjoyed yourself in Christianity long enough. You have had pleasant feelings, pleasant songs, pleasant meetings, pleasant prospects. There has been much of human happiness, much clapping of hands and shouting of praises- very much of heaven on earth.

Now then, go to God and tell Him you are prepared as much as necessary to turn your back upon it all, and that you are willing to spend the rest of your days struggling in the midst of these perishing multitudes, whatever it may cost you.

You must do it. With the light that is now broken in upon your mind and the call that is now sounding in your ears, and the beckoning hands that are now before your eyes, you have no alternative. To go down among the perishing crowds is your duty. Your happiness from now on will consist in sharing their misery, your ease in sharing their pain, your crown in helping them to bear their cross, and your heaven in going into the very jaws of hell to rescue them.

Now what will you do?" --William Booth

If you see it in His WORD,
then **He was the One** who revealed it to you.
If you desire it as a result of His WORD,
then **He was the One** who put it in your heart.
For, "Every **good** gift and every **perfect** gift is from Above,
and cometh down **from the Father of Lights**"

(James 1:17).

*--from [Jesus, Lover of My Soul](http://cyberhymnal.org/htm/j/jlmysoul.htm),
<http://cyberhymnal.org/htm/j/jlmysoul.htm>
@ [The Cyber Hymnal](http://cyberhymnal.org)
<http://cyberhymnal.org>

Must "Reads" for the "diligent":
"The hand of the diligent shall bear rule" (Proverbs 12:24).

1. [Exceeding Great and Precious Promises](http://WhatSaithTheScripture.com/Promises/Exceeding.Promises.html) -- <http://WhatSaithTheScripture.com/Promises/Exceeding.Promises.html> --

Or, How God Has Ingeniously Designed His Promises to Sanctify His People

by Tom Stewart

Our day-to-day needs have been ordained by God to cause us the necessity of discovering some new aspect of the character of the LORD Jesus that we may lay hold of by means of the Exceeding Great and Precious Promises. "But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

2. ["Helps to Intercession"](http://WhatSaithTheScripture.com/Fellowship/Murray.Intercession.html) -- <http://WhatSaithTheScripture.com/Fellowship/Murray.Intercession.html> --

by Andrew Murray

(1828-1917)

Who is Sufficient for These Things? - "The more we study and try to practice this grace of intercession, the more we become overwhelmed by its greatness and our feebleness. Let every such impression lead us to listen: My grace is sufficient for thee, and to answer truthfully: Our sufficiency is of God. Take courage; it is in the intercession of Christ you are called to take part. The burden and the agony, the triumph and the victory are all His. Learn from Him, yield to His Spirit in you, to know how to pray. He gave Himself a sacrifice to God for men, that He might have the right and power of intercession. 'He bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.' Let your faith rest boldly on His finished work. Let your heart wholly identify itself with Him in His death and His life. Like Him, give yourself to God a sacrifice for men; it is your highest

Intercession Promises: Casting The Net Text

nobility; it is your true and full union with Him; it will be to you, as to Him, your power of intercession. Beloved Christian! come and give your whole heart and life to intercession, and you will know its blessedness and its power. God asks nothing less; the world needs nothing less; Christ asks nothing less; let us offer to God nothing less."