

3 December 2017 - First Sunday of Advent

Readings: Isaiah 64:1–9; Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19; 1 Corinthians 1:3–9; Mark 13:24–37. **Advent series:** *The Great Awakening, Part 1.*

INTRO: *Time to pray* – Luke 21:36, “Be always on the watch, **and pray** that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”



I. FRONTLINE PRAYERS.

Mark 1:35, “Rising **very early in the morning**, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.”

1 Timothy 2:1, “**First of all**, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people.”

Body & Soul: RISE AND CONQUER.

St. Paul’s Advent Devotional: The Great Awakening. Prayer@10.



II. BOLD PRAYERS.

Isaiah 64:1-3, “Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.” **Cf. Isaiah 64:7**, “There is no one who... **rouses himself** to take hold of you.”

Psalm 80:1, “**Hear us**, Shepherd of Israel... You who sit enthroned between the cherubim, **shine forth... Awaken your might; come and save us. Restore us**, O God; **make your face shine on us...**”

1 Corinthians 1:7, “you are not lacking **in any gift.**”

1 Cor. 14:4, “Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves.”

2 Timothy 1:6, “For this reason I remind you to **fan into flame** the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.”

James 5:13-16, “Is anyone among you suffering? Let him **pray**. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them **pray** over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And **the prayer of faith** will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up.

And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and **pray for one another**, that you may be healed. The **prayer** of a righteous person has great power as it is working.”

Acts 3:6, “I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, **rise up and walk!**”

Acts 4:29-31, “And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word **with all boldness**, while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.”



III. THANKSGIVING PRAYERS.

1 Corinthians 1:4, “I give thanks to my God **always** for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus.”

John 16:20-22, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but **your sorrow will turn into joy**. When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, **for joy** that a human being has been born into the world. So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, **and no one will take your joy from you.**”

Philippians 4:4-6, “**Rejoice** in the Lord always; again I will say, **rejoice**. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication **with thanksgiving** let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

CONCLUSION: All great awakenings have been preceded by prayer. **Illus. Acts 1:14**, “All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer.” It’s time... to pray. *Shine, Jesus, Shine!* ☺