

Andrew Murray – The Believer’s Daily Renewal

Excerpts from Chapter 35 **THE POWER OF INTERCESSION**

What is intercession? It is being led by God’s Spirit to find out from God His will for a person or people, then to pray to God, from the heart, for that will to be done, and to unwaveringly believe God, with the faith of Jesus Christ, to do it, until it is fully done.

Isa 59:16 **God...wondered that there was no one to intercede...**

Intercession is to God, for others and it is against the Devil who God says rules the world.

2 Thess 2:7-8 **The Mystery of Wickedness is already at work, but what is going to happen (it becoming 1000 times worse) will not happen until the one who holds evil back is taken out of the way (that is the true Church, through intercession, when it is taken up in the rapture). **Then the Wicked One will be revealed...** TEV**

Murray: The true intercessor is a person who knows that God knows of them that their heart and life are wholly given up to God and His Glory. This is the only condition on which an officer at the court of an earthly sovereign could expect to exert much influence. Moses and Elijah and Daniel and Paul prove that it is so in the spiritual world...

I am wholly devoted to God: There is no other path for us. It is the person who seeks to enter personally into death with Christ, and gives themselves wholly for God and people, who will dare to be bold like Moses or Elijah, who will persevere like Daniel or Paul. Whole-hearted devotion and obedience to God are the first marks of an intercessor.

I am created by God to pray: You complain that you do not feel able to pray this way, and ask how you may be fitted to do so. You speak much of the feebleness of your faith in God, and love for souls, and delight in prayer. The person who is to have power in intercession must stop these complaints — They must know that they have a Nature perfectly adapted to the Work. An apple tree is only expected to bear apples, because it has the apple nature within it. **“You are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God has already prepared for you to do (Eph 2:10)”**. The eye was created to see: how beautifully fitted it is for its work! You are created in Christ to pray. It is your very nature as a child of God; The Holy Spirit has been sent into your heart — what to do? To cry Abba Father, to draw your heart up in child-like prayer...

Rom 8:26-27 **The Holy Spirit takes hold of our weakness, for we don’t know how or what to pray for...by inspiring prayers through us that otherwise would not be uttered...He sees that these prayers are according to God’s will and for others.**

Eph 3:10 **So that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers (wicked spirits) in the spirit realm,**

I am one with Christ: But you say “there is so much conscious sinfulness and defect in

my prayer". True, but have you not learned what it is to pray in the Name of Christ? Does the name not mean the living power? Do you not know that you are in Christ and He in you? That your whole life is hid and bound up in His? And His whole life is hid and working in you? The person who is to intercede in power must be very clear that, not in thought and reckoning only, but in the most actual, living, divine reality, Christ and they are one in the work of intercession. They appear before God clothed with the name and the nature, the righteousness and worthiness, the image and Spirit and life of Christ.

Do not spend your chief time in prayer in reiterating your petition, but in humbly, quietly, confidently claiming your place in Christ, your perfect union with Him, your access to God in Him. It is the person who comes to God in Christ, bringing to the Father that Christ in whom He delights, as his life and his law and only trust who will have power to intercede.

Intercession is supremely a work of faith. Not just of the faith that tries only to believe the prayer will be heard, but the faith that is at home amid heavenly realities. A faith that does not trouble about one's own nothingness and feebleness, because it is living in Christ. A faith that does not make its hope depend upon its feelings, but upon the faithfulness of the Three-One God, in what each person has undertaken to do in prayer. A faith that has overcome the world, and sacrifices the visible to be wholly free for the spiritual and heavenly and eternal to take possession of it. A faith that knows that it is heard and receives what it asks, and therefore quietly and deliberately perseveres in its supplication until the answer comes. The true intercessor must be a person of faith.

Eph 6:12-18 For we are...fighting against...those...great evil princes of darkness who rule this world; and against huge numbers of wicked spirits in the spirit world...Pray all the time. Ask God for anything in line with the Holy Spirit's wishes...keep praying earnestly for all Christians everywhere. TLB

Mark 11:24 (Jesus) Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

The intercessor must be a Messenger — one who holds himself ready, who earnestly offers himself personally to receive the answer and to dispense it. Praying and working go together. Think of Moses; his boldness in pleading with God for the people was no greater than his pleading with the people for God. We see the same in Elijah; the urgency of his prayer in secret is equaled by his jealousy for God in public, as he witnessed against the sin of the nation. Let intercession be always accompanied by the meek and humble waiting on God to receive His grace and Spirit, and to know more definitely what and how He would have us work. It is one thing, it is a great thing, to begin to take up the work of intercession — the drawing down to earth of the blessings which heaven has for its every need. It is a greater thing as intercessor personally to receive that blessing, and go out from God's face, knowing that we have secured something that we can impart. May God make us all whole-hearted, believing, blessing-bearing intercessors.

Prov 11:11 **A city (a nation) becomes great (again) when the righteous give it their blessing; but a city (nation) is brought to ruin by the words of the wicked.** TEV