



bloodline network newsletter

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DIVINE INVOCATION

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and PRAY, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.
2 Chronicles 7:14

An INVOCATION is calling upon the Great Power of God. Oftentimes Invocations are written and recited before important events creating marvelous junctures in history.

One of the most dramatic demonstrations of a National Invocation is written in the account of Jonah. His colorful testimony pictures him running away from God ... swallowed by a great fish in the sea ... and ending up on dry land. Jesus likened His own death, burial and resurrection after Jonah's three days in the belly of the fish. The real jewel in this testimony is the Power of Prayer. Jonah cried out to God "*with the voice of thanksgiving*" while yet in total agony in the belly of the fish, and made a vow to fulfill his impossible mission.

Jonah spoke to the people of Nineveh a Word from the Lord, "*Yet forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown!*" The king made a decree that "*every man, woman, child and beast would fast and pray ... let every one turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. Who can tell if God will turn and relent, and turn away from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish?*" The people BELIEVED God, and repented. God heard Nineveh's Invocation of faith and spared the Nation.

=National Day of Prayer

In May 1940 the military situation in Europe looked very bleak for England. After just 40 days of battle, nearly 330,000 British troops were trapped at Dunkirk awaiting certain death or imprisonment. Adolf Hitler was never closer to victory than during those five days in 1940—May 24-28.

On May 23rd the churches, supported by political leaders and King George VI, issued a call for a National Day of Prayer for May 26. The moment England PLANNED to pray they also witnessed the hand of Providence. The next day, May 24th Hitler stopped the advancement of his armies—to the surprise and dismay of his generals. Two days later England prayed for God to save their husbands, fathers and sons ... and that evening began the covert evacuation at

Dunkirk. Every thing that could float crossed the English Channel and continued each night until all the men were safely rescued.

Some historians believe that Dunkirk was the turning point of World War II—after that Hitler never regained his momentum. Hitler's defeat began the day thousands of men and women bowed their knees before Almighty God and asked Him to save their Nation.

=One Minute Prayer

A few months later author and businessman W. Tudor Pole campaigned for a One Minute Prayer. The Big Ben clock in London chimed for about a minute at 9 PM. Pole requested that during this one minute people would silently pray for those killed that day in battle as well as for all those killed in the war. Winston Churchill supported the effort.

“On November 10, 1940 the British Broadcasting Company radio aired the chimes of Big Ben precisely at 9 PM. The chimes lasted one minute—it was one minute in the evening set aside by the listeners for prayer. Following the One Minute Prayer, the BBC would report the news. The Nation prayed together for one minute each day... It was felt that if enough Brits joined in this effort, that the tide of the war would turn and England would not be invaded. The One Minute Prayer in the evening served as a source of inspiration in those darkest days of the war.”

This was the inspiration cited by a group in 2007 to attract Americans to pray each evening at 9 PM EST, 8 PM CST, ... They suggest that everyone stop what they're doing and pray for One Minute for the safety of the United States, our troops, our citizens and for peace in the world. Americans remain indebted to those praying for the Intervention of God in our Nation.

=Patton's Prayer Request

On December 8, 1944 General George Patton had an Invocation written for the Third Army—he wanted good weather. Msgr. James H. O'Neill wrote what now is called Patton's Prayer saying that what really happened “should serve to enhance the memory of the man himself, and cause him to be enshrined by generations to come as one of the greatest of our soldiers. He had all the traits of military leadership, fortified by genuine trust in God, intense love of country, and high faith in the American soldier.”

Grateful that the Home Front was praying, Patton questioned the chaplain if the men of the Third Army prayed. O'Neill responded “I am afraid to admit it, but I do not believe that much praying is going on. When there is fighting, everyone prays, but now with this constant rain—when things are quiet, dangerously quiet, men just sit and wait for things to happen. Prayer out here is difficult ...I do not believe that much praying is being done.”

=The Power of Prayer

“Chaplain, I am a strong believer in prayer” Patton began. “There are three ways that men get what they want; by PLANNING, by WORKING, and by PRAYING. Any great military operation takes careful planning, or thinking. Then you must have well-trained troops to carry

it out: that's working. But between the plan and the operation there is always an unknown. That unknown spells defeat or victory, success or failure. It is the reaction of the actors to the ordeal when it actually comes. Some people call that getting the breaks; I call it God. God has His part, or margin in everything. That's where prayer comes in..."

Patton concluded the meeting with a request that O'Neill also write a training letter to all the chaplains of the Third Army saying: "Write about nothing else, just the Importance of Prayer... We've got to get not only the chaplains but EVERY man in the Third Army to pray. We must ask God to stop these rains. These rains are that margin that holds defeat or victory. If we all pray, it will be like what Dr. Carrel said (the allusion was to a press quote some days previously when Dr. Alexis Carrel, one of the foremost scientists, described prayer "as one of the most powerful forms of energy man can generate")—it will be like plugging in on a current whose Source is in Heaven. I believe that Prayer completes that circuit. It is power."

3,200 letters went out to the chaplains of the Third Army requesting them to pray and ended with Patton's urgent appeal: "...In Gideon's day, and in our own, spiritually alert minorities carry the burdens and bring the victories. Urge all of your men to pray, not alone in church, but everywhere. Pray when driving. Pray when fighting. Pray alone. Pray with others. Pray by night and pray by day. Pray for the cessation of immoderate rains, for good weather for Battle. Pray for the defeat of our wicked enemy whose banner is injustice and whose good is oppression. Pray for victory. Pray for our Army, and Pray for Peace."

=Patton's Prayer

Almighty and most merciful Father, we humbly beseech Thee, of Thy great goodness, to restrain these immoderate rains with which we have had to contend. Grant us fair weather for Battle. Graciously hearken to us as soldiers who call upon Thee that, armed with Thy power, we may advance from victory to victory, and crush the oppression and wickedness of our enemies and establish Thy justice among men and nations.

250,000 Invocation Cards went out December 12-14. The moment the Third Army came into position to fight on December 20th the rains stopped and the fog lifted. American planes flew over by the thousands and pressured the Germans as the Allied Forces won the battle at Bastogne.

During 'The Battle of the Bulge' at Bastogne, Americans stood their ground—stemming the tide of retreat and halting the German advance. Prayer made all the difference!

=Invocation

And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.

Invocation is a prayer or affirmation that speaks of a specific positive statement in the present moment. Patton's prayer was an invocation for the Third Army that spoke specific things that they needed: to win a battle, win the war and establish justice. An Invocation can be prayer for Divine Intervention for a Nation or in your personal life.

Most people tend to set up a natural defense mechanism (resistance) to protect them from change. Scientists inform us that relaxation allows the mind to be more receptive. If your

body is relaxed your mind automatically relaxes too. Therefore speaking an Invocation is more effective in the ‘lull’ before falling asleep or waking up.

You’re familiar with the gentle sound of a lullaby that induces the feeling of calmness—causing the child to feel safe and protected. It’s in this ‘lull’ that you likewise are very vulnerable to suggestion. Reciting an Invocation at this time produces the best results because you’re more likely to really believe it. And if it’s prayed for at least 45 days—you’re neurotransmitters will entrench it deep into your subconscious mind.

Meditation can be effective or beneficial in generating a calm atmosphere for speaking an Invocation. It’s another way of creating a ‘lull’ in your mind so you are more open to godly suggestion—similar to how praying in the Spirit bypasses the natural mind to enter the realm of your innermost being.

=The Element of Faith

If any of you lacks ... let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting...

All the resources of God are housed in your innermost being yet it remains untapped if you don’t know it’s your treasure. Oftentimes man fights against the very thing he wants. Yet if he learned to quiet his natural mind, he’d be more receptive and open to respond favorably.

Some learned to occupy their conscious mind with a repetitive routine such as washing dishes, ironing, pulling weeds, etc. A preoccupied mind won’t be talking back to you with doubtful questions or comments—allowing you open communication with your subconscious mind.

Employing visualization also strengthens your faith. Both visions and visualizations yield the same benefits. Visions (or dreams) are a picture of possibility that come forth from your innermost being. Visualization is choosing to picture it again in your mind. The repetition of repeating the picture implants it deep in you and it becomes more and more believable. Your faith increases to believe the impossible and it redefines you. “*As a man thinks in his heart, so is he.*” Now you expect it to happen and ‘act as if’ it did.

=Questions

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Asking questions opens a portal for you to receive answers from your innermost being. Your mind is functioning all the time—even when you’re sleeping or meditating your mind is always searching for answers.

Greek mathematician and inventor Archimedes took a relaxing bath and let his brain work unhampered—and Eureka! he had the answer. Albert Einstein rocked in his chair; Thomas Edison took naps; and author and biochemistry professor Isaac Asimov watched comedy when he couldn’t figure something out. By the time the bathing, rocking, napping or movie was over their minds had worked out the solution—usually claiming it as a ‘flash’ of insight.

The scripture says, “*You have not because you ask not,*” or “*ask and you shall receive.*” But it’s important that you ask positive questions. Negative questions such as: “Why can’t I ever do it right?” will only bring more mistakes into your life. The negative question causes you to focus on and believe that something’s wrong or lacking in you. You may doubt that you’ll ever do anything right. Remember: YOU GET WHAT YOU FOCUS ON. If you change the question to “What can I do to make this better?” you open the door to better things and right thinking—attracting opportunity to you.

Maybe the change we’re looking for starts with us ... starts with an Invocation ... starts with a One Minute Prayer for God to heal our land. It may be how we each participate in something that becomes really big—something transformational and supernatural ... something that opens our minds to sense spiritual activity and change our ways ... and God heals our Nation.

Roger and Karen Roth are the set ministry of a local church in Northeastern Wisconsin. They are a ministry son of Dr. Hanby, and along with writing the Bloodline articles each month, they are directors of a portion of Dr. Hanby's ministry called THE FATHER'S HEART.

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