



# CAPITOL COMMISSION

## Petition and Praise

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*Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter. (Daniel 2:19-23)*

“Daniel knew how to converse with God by prayer, and [Daniel] found favor with Him, both [through] petition and in thanksgiving, which are two principal parts of prayer.”  
—Matthew Henry

### PETITION

*“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to 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.” (1 John 5:14-15)*

Petition is a vital part of prayer. Christ directed us to ask, and it would be given to us. *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. (Matthew 7:7-8)*

James stated that we don't have because we don't ask. *Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. (James 4:2)*

Suggested litmus test for requests in prayer –

- Is this prayer **unselfish** in nature?
- Does this prayer **honor** God?
- Is this prayer **biblically** correct?<sup>1</sup>

It is important to remember that we are not just to approach God with a laundry list. I once heard a true story of a man placing an order for goods on an answering machine. At the end of the message he accidentally finished with, “In Jesus name,

Amen,” as if He had just prayed to God! We must guard our hearts against thinking of God as a genie in a bottle.

### PRAISE

*“That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret... Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision.” (Daniel 2:18-19)*

Daniel did not hesitate to praise God for answering his prayer. Even before giving the answer to the king he stopped and praised God.

- Then Daniel **blessed** the God of heaven. *Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. (Daniel 2:19)*
- Daniel praised the Lord **immediately**. *Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter. (Daniel 2:20-23)*
- I **thank** Thee and **praise** Thee. *I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter. (Daniel 2:23)*
- Count your many **blessings**.

*“My mouth shall shew forth thy righteousness and thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers thereof.” (Psalm 71:15)*

*I must be continually in the spirit of gratitude, praise, and obedience, for Thy blessings to me are innumerable.”<sup>2</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Miracle in the Mountains, Lonnie Riley pg 92,93

<sup>2</sup> Adam Clarke's Commentary on the Bible (Psalm 71:15)

### BIBLE STUDIES

CHAPEL SERVICES: THURSDAY @ 12:10-12:35 P.M.  
STAFF/LOBBYIST BIBLE STUDY: FRIDAY @ 12:30 P.M., CHAPEL ROOM