

## Praying For a Parking Spot

Read the below extracts from THE SILENCE OF GOD by Sir Robert Anderson:

A SILENT Heaven is the greatest mystery of our existence. Some there are, indeed, for whom the problem has no perplexities. In a philosophy of silly optimism, or a life of selfish isolation, they have “attained Nirvana.” For such the sad and hideous realities of life around us have no existence. Upon their path these cast no shadow. The serene atmosphere of their fools’ paradise is undisturbed by the cry of the suffering and the oppressed. But earnest and thoughtful men face these realities, and have ears to hear that cry; and their indignant wonder finds utterance at times in some such words as those of the old Hebrew prophet and bard, “Doth God know? And is there knowledge in the Most High?”

Chapter 1, p. 7

“A SILENT Heaven! Yes, but it is not the silence of callous indifference or helpless weakness; it is the silence of a great sabbatic rest, the silence of a peace which is absolute and profound — a silence which is the public pledge and proof that the way is open for the guiltiest of mankind to draw near to God.” Chapter 13, p.73

Sir Roberts view would contradict much of today’s Christianity where many believe God answers even the most inane personal prayers based on misunderstood verses like John 14:12 and Mark 11:24. However, as dispensationalists, we are aware that the promises of the Acts and Gospels periods were specific to that period, while the prayer direction of the post Acts epistles are more focused on seeking understanding and wisdom concerning the truth of the Mystery, and providing a peaceful environment to allow for freedom to speak and teach about the Mystery of Christ as well as building up and edifying the body.

In other words, in the current dispensation, prayer should focus more on the things of God than on our desires, which begs the question, should I pray for a parking spot? Although perhaps, a bit tongue in cheek, it opens the conversation for the following questions.

1. What should we be praying for today?
2. What do we understand by “undispensational prayer and undispensational expectations”?

Would you please give scriptural reasons for your answers?

After the breakout rooms, we will come back together to share each other’s conclusions and discuss these things further.

## References to prayer in the Post Acts Epistles

**Eph. 1:15-18** Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers (**G4335**): that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him**, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

**Eph 6:18-20** Praying (**G4336**) always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; 19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

**Phil 1:9** And this I pray, (**G4336**) that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment.

**Phil 4:6,7** Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer **G4335** and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

**Col 1:3** We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying (**G4336**) always for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel.

**Col 1:9** For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray (**G4336**) for you, and to desire that ye might **be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding**.

**Col 4:2,3** Continue in prayer, **G4335** and watch in the same with thanksgiving; Withal praying (**G4336**) also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, **to speak the mystery of Christ**, for which I am also in bonds:

12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, **G4335** that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

**1 Tim 2:1-4, 8** I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers (**G4335**), intercessions, [and] giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and [for] all that are in authority; **that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty**. For this [is] good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, **and to come unto the knowledge of the truth**.

8 I will therefore that men pray (**G4336**) everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

**Phm 1:4** I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, **G4335**

**Furthr reading:**

THE SILENCE OF GOD , by Sir Robert Anderson

[https://distinguishingtruth.files.wordpress.com/2016/03/and\\_tsog.pdf](https://distinguishingtruth.files.wordpress.com/2016/03/and_tsog.pdf)

PRAYER, by STUART ALLEN

<https://www.bibleunderstanding.com/Prayer.PDF>

A large collection of books and audios in this subject at Open Bible Trust

<https://www.obt.org.uk/collections/prayer>

**Eph 3:16-21** That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; 17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; 19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. 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, 21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. **Amen.**