

Daily Devotional, June 28, 2020

'Prayer and Faith', (John 14:14)

"If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it" (John 14:14; NKJV)

These words were spoken by the Lord Jesus to His disciples in the upper room on the night He was betrayed. Jesus affirms the fact that He will hear and answer the prayers of His people. He is a **"very present help in trouble"** (Psalm 46:1). Let us not make the mistake, however, of thinking that God will answer all of our prayers according to our will. He is not a genie in a bottle. He never promised His followers health and wealth, but He did promise trials and tribulations (John 16:33). Jesus teaches us to pray: **"Thy will be done"** (Matthew 6:10). **"This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us"** (1 John 5:14). When we pray, our attitude ought to be one of submissiveness to the Lord of the universe. This is where faith comes in. To be sure, I have seen and personally experienced a great many prayers being answered according to the petition. However, we have to be prepared for a 'no' or 'not yet' answer as well. Great faith accepts the right of God to do as He wishes and trusts Him as a baby does his or her mother and father, even under the most difficult circumstances. Unfortunately, this world is full of all manner of sin, evil, and the suffering that results from them. Remember that the greatest suffering—that of Christ—resulted in the greatest good, which is reconciliation and forgiveness for you and I. None of us can fully understand the mind of God, but we can know the love, peace, and hope that comes with knowing Him. So, let's keep praying and cultivating our connection with the Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ.