

A STUDY ON PRAYER

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF PRAYER?

The prayers of God's people are but God's promises breathed out of living hearts, and those promises are the decrees, only put into another form & fashion.

—Charles Haddon Spurgeon

- I. Reminder of Catechism Definition

- II. Natural Instinct
 - A. Examples
 - B. Proof

- III. Command
 - A. God's Authority
 - B. God's Position as Creator
 - 1. Creature Distinction (Romans 1)
 - 2. Isn't this the one we want to approach!

- IV. Finally, A succinct definition
 - A. Mark 11:24 model
 - 1. Definite pleadings
 - 2. Earnest Desire
 - 3. Faith
 - 4. Realizing Expectation
 - B. Potential Aspects of Prayer
 - 1. Communication -> Matthew 7:7-11, et al
 - 2. Praise -> Psalm 50:23
 - 3. Adoration -> Matthew 6:9
 - 4. Meditation -> Psalm 1:2
 - 5. Humiliation -> James 4:10, II Chronicles 7:14
 - 6. Confession -> Daniel 9:4
 - C. To Glorify God—Our Purpose
 - 1. John 14:12-13
 - 2. John 17:1-4
 - 3. I Corinthians 10:31
 - 4. How do we do this?—Does this pose a problem?

- V. The Problem with Prayer