

February 1, 2025

Solomon's Prayer

During Yeshua's sermon on the mount, He touches on many aspects of life in relation to and supported by Torah. From giving to faith, Yeshua provides many examples and insight. All are important yet there is one thing that brings this all together.

Prayer.

Mat 6:5 "When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites, who love to pray standing in the synagogues and on street corners, so that people can see them. Yes! I tell you, they have their reward already!

Mat 6:6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. Your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Mat 6:7 "And when you pray, don't babble on and on like the pagans, who think God will hear them better if they talk a lot.

Last Shabbat I shared about the state of the congregation and the direction and ministries we would be focusing on. In essence what our priorities are.

Prioritize – we can not be all things to all people. We simply don't have the resources and thus would lose focus. We must utilize our resources effectively and efficiently.

Everything we do must start first with prayer. Seeking His guidance and following the Words of Yeshua, for whom His Words are the Words of Adonai, the one who has sent him. A promise made to Moshe...

Deu 18:18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kinsmen. I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I order him.

And affirmed by Adonai regarding Yeshua after the transfiguration...

Luk 9:33 As the men were leaving Yeshua, Kefa said to him, not knowing what he was saying, "It's good that we're here, Rabbi! Let's put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moshe and one for Eliyahu."

Luk 9:34 As he spoke, a cloud came and enveloped them. They were frightened as they entered the cloud;

Luk 9:35 and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen. Listen to him!"

Prayer – it all starts with prayer.

The promise that was made to Solomon upon dedication of the Temple...

2Ch 7:11 Thus Shlomo finished the house of Adonai and the royal palace. Everything that Shlomo had set his heart on making in the house of Adonai and in his own palace he accomplished successfully.

2Ch 7:12 Adonai appeared to Shlomo by night and said to him, **"I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice.**

2Ch 7:13 If I shut up the sky, so that there is no rain; or if I order locusts to devour the land; or if I send an epidemic of sickness among my people;

2Ch 7:14 then, if my people, who bear my name, will humble themselves, pray, seek my face and turn from their evil ways, I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin and heal their land.

2Ch 7:15 Now my eyes will be open and my ears will pay attention to the prayer made in this place.

How did we get here?

Adonai's response all started with Shlomo's prayer...

Having finished praying...

2Ch 7:1 When Shlomo had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of Adonai filled the house,

2Ch 7:2 so that the cohanim could not enter the house of Adonai; because the glory of Adonai filled Adonai's house.

2Ch 7:3 All the people of Isra'el saw when the fire came down, and the glory of Adonai was on the house; they bowed down with their faces to the ground on the flooring; prostrating themselves, they gave thanks to Adonai, "for he is good, for his grace continues forever."

God Came down...

What did Solomon prayer?

Is there something special about it?

2Ch 6:12 Then he stood before the altar of Adonai in the presence of the whole community of Isra'el, spread out his hands—

2Ch 6:13 for Shlomo had made a bronze platform eight-and-three quarters feet long, eight-and-three-quarters feet wide and five-and-a-quarter feet high and had set it up in the middle of the courtyard. He stood on it, then got down on his knees before the whole community, spread out his hands toward heaven,

Shlomo humbled himself yet was still before the community. He didn't go off into his prayer closet but came down amongst the people.

2Ch 6:14 and said, "Adonai, God of Isra'el, there is no God like you in heaven or on earth. You keep covenant with your servants and show them grace, provided they live in your presence with all their heart.

2Ch 6:15 You have kept your promise to your servant David, my father; you spoke with your mouth and fulfilled it with your hand; so it is today.

Does this sound similar?

Mat 6:8 Don't be like them, because your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Mat 6:9 You, therefore, pray like this: 'Our Father in heaven! May your Name be kept holy.

Mat 6:10 May your Kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.

First, recognize Him alone, as Shlomo did.

Your will be done, in that Adonai has kept His promises, He has kept His Word.

His Word revealed to us is His Will, that is what He wants.

2Ch 6:16 Now therefore, Adonai, God of Isra'el, keep what you promised to your servant David, my father, when you said, 'You will never lack a man in my presence to sit on the throne of Isra'el, if only your children are careful about what they do, so that they live by my Torah, just as you have lived in my presence.'

2Ch 6:17 Now therefore, Adonai, God of Isra'el, please let your word, which you spoke to your servant David, my father, be confirmed.

2Ch 6:18 "But can God actually live with human beings on the earth? Why,

heaven itself, even the heaven of heavens, cannot contain you; so how much less this house I have built?

Can God live with humans, the query of Shlomo after the house that was built for Adonai, the Temple, could it truly contain the very presence of Adonai?

2Ch 6:19 Even so, Adonai my God, pay attention to your servant's prayer and plea, listen to the cry and prayer that your servant is praying before you,

2Ch 6:20 that your eyes will be open toward this house day and night—toward the place where you said you would put your name—to listen to the prayer your servant will pray toward this place.

Listen to the cry of your people, alluding to the Exodus when Adonai then heard the cry of His people...

Exo 2:23 Sometime during those many years the king of Egypt died, but the people of Isra'el still groaned under the yoke of slavery, and they cried out, and their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God.

Exo 2:24 God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya`akov.

Exo 2:25 God saw the people of Isra'el, and God acknowledged them.

In other words, that you continue to hear us when we cry out to you in this place. Hear your people who are your first born,

your people...a plea to listen to us, never turning away from us.

2Ch 6:21 Yes, listen to the pleas of your servant, and also those of your people Isra'el when they pray toward this place. Hear from where you live, from heaven; and when you hear, forgive!

2Ch 6:22 "If a person sins against a fellow member of the community, and he is made to swear under oath, and he comes and swears before your altar in this house;

2Ch 6:23 then hear from heaven, act and judge your servants, paying back the wicked, so that his way of life devolves on his own head, and vindicating the one who is right, giving him what his righteousness deserves.

2Ch 6:24 "If your people Isra'el sin against you and in consequence are defeated

by an enemy; then if they turn back to you, acknowledge your name, and pray and make their plea to you in this house,

2Ch 6:25 hear from heaven, forgive the sin of your people Isra'el, and bring them back to the land you gave to them and their ancestors.

2Ch 6:26 "When they sin against you, and in consequence the sky is shut, so that there is no rain; then if they pray toward this place, acknowledge your name and turn from their sin when you have brought them low;

2Ch 6:27 hear in heaven, forgive the sin of your servants and of your people Isra'el—since you keep teaching them the good way by which they should live—and send down rain on your land, which you have given your people as their inheritance.

2Ch 6:28 "If there is famine in the land, or blight, windstorm, mildew, locusts or shearer-worms; or if their enemies besiege them in any of their cities—no matter what kind of plague or sickness it is;

2Ch 6:29 **then, regardless of what prayer or plea anyone among all your people Isra'el makes—for each individual will know his own plague and his own pain—and the person spreads out his hands toward this house;**

Then Hear from Heaven, where our cries go upto, as it happened prior to the Exodus as I had alluded to. The same dynamic Shlomo is seeking as he prays for this place.

Notice the continued emphasis for Adonai's ear to hear...

2Ch 6:30 **then hear from heaven** where you live, and forgive; also, since you know what is in each one's heart, give each person what his conduct deserves (because you, and only you, know human hearts),

2Ch 6:31 so that they will fear you and therefore live according to your ways throughout the time they live in the land you gave our ancestors.

2Ch 6:32 "Also the foreigner who does not belong to your people Isra'el—when he comes from a distant country because of your great reputation, your mighty hand and your outstretched arm, when they come and pray toward this house;

2Ch 6:33 **then hear from heaven**, from where you live; and act in accordance with everything about which the foreigner is calling to you; so that all the peoples of the earth will know your name and fear you, as does your people Isra'el, and so that they will know that this house which I have built bears your name.

2Ch 6:34 "If your people go out to fight their enemies, no matter by which way you send them, and they pray to you toward the city you chose and the house I built for your name;

2Ch 6:35 **then, from heaven**, hear their prayer and plea, and uphold their cause.

2Ch 6:36 "If they sin against you—for there is no one who doesn't sin—and you

are angry with them and hand them over to the enemy, so that they carry them off captive to a land far away or nearby;

2Ch 6:37 then, if they come to their senses in the land where they have been carried away captive, turn back and make their plea to you in the land where they are being held captive, saying, 'We sinned, we acted wrongly, we behaved wickedly,'

2Ch 6:38 if, in the land where they were brought and are being held captive, they return to you with all their heart and being and pray to you toward their own land, which you gave to their ancestors, toward the city you chose and toward the house I have built for your name;

2Ch 6:39 **then, from heaven**, from where you live, hear their prayer and pleas, uphold their cause, and forgive your people who have sinned against you.

Shlomo is expressing the needs of the people as he prays before Adonai. That in praying over this place where He will reside that He literally inhabits the prayers of His people.

He is doing so in a way that Yeshua reveals to us in Matthew 6 and the second aspect of what we know to be the "Lord's Prayer"

Mat 6:11 Give us the food we need today.

Mat 6:12 Forgive us what we have done wrong, as we too have forgiven those who have wronged us.

Mat 6:13 And do not lead us into hard testing, but keep us safe from the Evil One. [*The latter half of verse 13 is not found in the oldest manuscripts.*] For kingship, power and glory are yours forever. Amen.'

2Ch 6:40 "Now, my God, please, let your eyes be open, and let your ears pay attention to the prayer being made in this place.

2Ch 6:41 "Now go up, Adonai, God, to your place of rest, you and the ark through which you give strength. "May your cohanim, Adonai, God, be clothed with salvation; may those loyal to you take joy in good.

2Ch 6:42 "Adonai, God, don't turn away the face of your anointed one; remember the mercies of your servant David."

Shlomo's prayer has been answered here...

Act 13:32 "As for us, we are bringing you the Good News that what God promised to the fathers,

Act 13:33 he has fulfilled for us the children in raising up Yeshua, as indeed it is written in the second Psalm, 'You are my Son; today I have become your Father.'

Act 13:34 And as for his raising him up from the dead, to return to decay no more, he said, 'I will give the holy and trustworthy things of David to you.'

The things of David, the promises made to David have been brought to reality. Shlomo praying for the Kingdom and the King and His House, are seen in their fullness in Messiah Yeshua.

Everything I have shared with you this morning aligns perfectly with His Word that He has revealed to us and by whom Yeshua has affirmed. No greater representation of who Adonai is and what Yeshua taught is found anywhere then in what Adonai revealed about Himself when Israel had sinned against Him having created the Golden Calf. Upon Moshe's intercession for the people and their sin, Adonai revealed...

Exo 34:5 Adonai descended in the cloud, stood with him there and pronounced the name of Adonai.

Exo 34:6 Adonai passed before him and proclaimed: "YUD-HEH-VAV-HEH!!! Yud-Heh-Vav-Heh (יהוה) [*Adonai*] is God, merciful and compassionate, slow to anger, rich in grace and truth;

Exo 34:7 showing grace to the thousandth generation, forgiving offenses, crimes and sins; yet not exonerating the guilty, but causing the negative effects of the parents' offenses to be experienced by their children and grandchildren, and even by the third and fourth generations."

Exo 34:8 At once Moshe bowed his head to the ground, prostrated himself

Exo 34:9 and said, "If I have now found favor in your view, Adonai, then please let Adonai go with us, even though they are a stiffnecked people; and pardon our offenses and our sin; and take us as your possession."

His Word doesn't change but He can change His mind because of our action when we sin against Him...

Joe 2:12 "Yet even now," says Adonai, "turn to me with all your heart, with fasting, weeping and lamenting."

Joe 2:13 Tear your heart, not your garments; and turn to Adonai your God. For he is merciful and compassionate, slow to anger, rich in grace, and willing to change his mind about disaster.

Let your prayers be dynamic and modeled after Yeshua's example. Let them not just be the model itself. You have an intimate relationship with Adonai that is personal. Make it personal, starting with your prayers. Don't just do the pattern, saying it repetitiously, but with a personal signature, your personal signature. Remember this...

Psa 139:13 For you fashioned my inmost being, you knit me together in my mother's womb.

Psa 139:14 I thank you because I am awesomely made, wonderfully; your works are wonders—I know this very well.

Psa 139:15 My bones were not hidden from you when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

Psa 139:16 Your eyes could see me as an embryo, but in your book all my days were already written; my days had been shaped before any of them existed.

Closing with this prayer from David...

Psa 86:1 [*A prayer of David:*] Listen, Adonai, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.

Psa 86:2 Preserve my life, for I am faithful; save your servant, who puts his trust in you because you are my God.

Psa 86:3 Take pity on me, Adonai, for I cry to you all day.

Psa 86:4 Fill your servant's heart with joy, for to you, Adonai, I lift my heart.

Psa 86:5 Adonai, you are kind and forgiving, full of grace toward all who call on you.

Psa 86:6 Listen, Adonai, to my prayer; pay attention to my pleading cry.

Psa 86:7 On the day of my trouble I am calling on you, for you will answer me.

Psa 86:8 There is none like you among the gods, Adonai; no deeds compare with yours.

Psa 86:9 All the nations you have made will come and bow before you, Adonai; they will honor your name.

Psa 86:10 For you are great, and you do wonders; you alone are God.

Psa 86:11 Adonai, teach me your way, so that I can live by your truth; make me single-hearted, so that I can fear your name.

Psa 86:12 I will thank you, Adonai my God, with my whole heart; and I will glorify your name forever.

Psa 86:13 For your grace toward me is so great! You have rescued me from the lowest part of Sh'ol.

Psa 86:14 God, arrogant men are rising against me, a gang of brutes is seeking my life, and to you they pay no attention.

Psa 86:15 But you, Adonai, are a merciful, compassionate God, slow to anger and rich in grace and truth.

Psa 86:16 Turn to me, and show me your favor; strengthen your servant, save

your slave-girl's son.

Psa 86:17 Give me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me will see it and be ashamed, because you, Adonai, have helped and comforted me.