

The Prayer God hears: Desperate Prayer

By Apostle John Mulinde

There are times God chooses not hear the prayer of people, even God's people. Something holds God back from responding. We find in Isaiah 59:1-2, where God could answer prayer, but chooses not to do so. There are times we will speak and he will not listen. It is not because God can't hear, but that he won't. This fact is even more interesting in light of when Jesus promised that if we ask anything in his name, he will answer.

In Ezekiel 22:30 we are told God is looking for a man who would build a "wall". It is clear from the passage that he was not referring to a natural, man made built wall. He is referring to a spiritual wall. The lack of having such a wall, we are told, affects leads to a family breakdown, financial breakdown, oppression, and false prophets devouring the flock of God. The hedge of protection is gone. The land is described as sick and all of these problems were symptoms of the root of the problem. So what causes the sickness in the land? **THE SICKNESS OF THE LAND WAS IN THE PEOPLE.** The land had been defile by the people.

In I John 5, we are told that if God hears us, we the answer will come for certain. The obvious question is then, how do we get God to hears us? If we pray differently than what God wants, we get no answer. If you are not getting the answer from God is because we are not discerning the will God.

Why God does not just pour his Spirit in the condition we are in? Why God won't pour out his Spirit within the context of the defilement? Because God would then be giving the stamping of approval on our ways and condition. **IN HIS LOVE, GOD WITHHOLDS THE ANSWER, SO IT CAUSES TO SEEK HIS FACE.** When people don't experience revival in their lives, it would cause then to become restless and ask themselves why they are not experiencing revival? This is the beginning of what God is looking for - **DESPERATE PRAYER.** The desperate prayer says "God how long before you come and invade us with your presence once again?" God will not answer, but gives us the assurance (Jeremiah 29:12). If you want his presence, you must seek his principles. When people become desperate, they will be willing to pay the price. We see a perfect example of this in Genesis chapter four. Abel's offering was pleasing to God, and yet Cain's offering was not. It is as if God was saying "I am not going to answer you, just because you need an offering. You must do it right and come to me right and then I will answer your prayer". God will come to you when you come to him right.

God is looking for the condition of the heart and not just the content of our prayer. We can easily do the right thing the wrong way. God wants more than just words. He is looking for a heart

which is desperately longing for him. When the Spirit comes you are going to have to spend more time in prayer. So if you are not willing to spend time with God now with desperate prayer, why would God send revival for?

Four Conditions for a Desperate Prayer

First, avoid the comfortable. Stop allowing things can't continue the way they are in your life. Ask the Lord, "am I missing something God?" Be convince that the status quo can't no longer be accepted. We need a cry that says, "we will pay whatever price, but don't hide your presence from me". We must be trouble in our spirit with the condition of our city and nation: recession, worst fires ever, high divorce, high abortion, sex trafficking, addiction, violence, unemployment, but worst of all, the spiritual condition in our region. Are you comfortable with the status quo? When people are desperate they are willing to remove themselves from the comfort zone. Today, more and more people are asking to be accepted as they are and are not willing to change their lifestyle and spiritual condition.

How do I know that I am comfortable? We know we have fallen into the trap of comfortable when we arrive a time and place in our live when we say, "I can't give this up". We start developing a mindset which says "I can't make through with what you want me to do". We are in a spiritual comfort zone when IT IS WHEN YOU WILL NOT ALLOW HIM TO DO WHAT HE CAME TO DO IN YOUR LIFE.

Second, believe God can and wants to do to bring awakening and revival today. Recognize that if God is doing it somewhere else, he can do it here. If God can bring revival in the hundreds of places throughout the world today, he can do it where you live. God is not a respecter of person, but of principles. We must get to the place where we are no longer waiting for God to do in the next generation what He is ready to do right now.

Third, expose the works of the devil. In the spiritual world, there is more than meets the eye. It is more than a psychological or social problem you are facing in your situation, family, ministry or city. There is a power behind the problem! The demonic world is real. When we start seeing how truly horrible the condition of whatever we are confronting is, we begin to develop an inner desperation for God to show up.

Last, believe God is higher, bigger and broader than we make him out to be. Too often, we don't desperately seek God because we have dumb down God. What we often have today is the dumbing down of God. Many have been presented with the "incredible shrinking God". The God often portrayed in books or the media no longer show how holy God is. But apart from the holiness of God we have not another God, but no God at all. Part of the reason why God is so great is because he is so holy. A portrayal of a sugar coated, puny little God leads to puny little

desperation for God. Today we used term to describe God such as "The man upstairs", which waters down God's greatness. In Isaiah chapter 6, we are told that Isaiah the prophet had a vision of God after having served God for 18 years. He described God as lifted and high by means of his throne. His description of God's appearance can rise no higher than the hem of his robe. It is as though words break down when he attempts to depict God himself. As holy, he saw God as transcendently different. Isaiah was so touched by God's holiness that when he address God in the book of Isaiah, he calls him "the Holy One of Israel/Jacob". Twenty six times this phrase is found in the bible, but only six times outside of the book of Isaiah. The angels around the throne of God cry "Holy, Holy, Holy" and with every close up experience with God these angels were confronted with his holiness. It is impossible to get close to God and not be confronted with his holiness. As they cry to each other holy is a rhythmic fashion, they declared that God is most holy. His glory fills and covers the earth because his holiness is so powerful in emanates the heaviness of his purity everywhere God is. The sound of the angels voices causes the door of the temple to shake. These angels, known as seraphims, are the door keepers of God's heavenly temple. So as Isaiah was by the door, he felt the doors shaking, so we can assume the whole building was shaking. It was so thunderous, the foundation of the building was shaking. Isaiah was overwhelmed with God's holy greatness that he was said to be "undone" (Isaiah 6:4). To be undone means to be broken or to come apart at the seems, to be unloosen. He was saying "I can't hold it together". Isaiah was desperate for a touch of God. A holy desperation erupted inside of him. He saw God's worthiness and caused him to desperately confessed his unworthiness. The biggest temptation is to say God does not expect this type of reaction from everyone. Nothing can be farther from the truth. The temptation today is to alter the truth of so the people would be more responsive, but it would have only been a superficial and shallow response. God is looking for a deep response of holy desperation for Him. There is much more to God than what you think.