

Calvin's Institutes of the Christian Religion
9 Prayer

1. The Importance of Prayer

Col 1:19, John 1:16

- (a) Will he not heed his _____ tears and groans, entreating for themselves? Since he _____, exhorts us so to do, will he not be _____ by their pleas?
- (b) It is by the benefit of prayer that we reach those _____ that are laid up for us with the heavenly Father.

2. Questions About Prayer

- (a) Why should we pray, since God already knows both _____, and _____?

God ordained prayer not so much for _____, as for _____. Prayer _____ and _____ our minds and hearts.

- (b) Does our prayer _____ God and cause him to _____?

Prayer does _____ things - most often the _____ who is _____.

3. Why we should pray

Ps 34:15

- (a) That our hearts may be fixed with desire to _____, _____ and _____ him and to _____ in time of need.
- (b) That we may learn to lay _____ before God.
- (c) That we receive his gifts with true _____ of heart and _____ knowing that all good things come from his hand.
- (d) That we may know that God ever extends his hand to _____ his own.
- (e) That we learn to place all our _____ in his sight, that we may have no _____ that we would be ashamed to put before him.
- (f) That we receive all we have from him with _____ and _____.
- (g) That we may _____ in his goodness.
- (h) That we address him with _____ in his faithfulness.

4. Rules for Prayer

(a) Reverence

Moved by God's majesty we pray with careful _____ and deep _____

Our prayers must proceed from a well-disposed and earnest _____ and not just from our _____, but from the bottom of our heart.

(b) Repentance and a sense of need

Prayer is the _____ of the _____ for help in the midst of circumstances that cannot be met by merely _____.

(c) Humility

The beginning, and even the preparation of proper prayer is the plea for _____ with a humble and sincere _____ of guilt.

(d) Confident hope

Heb 4:16

If we would pray fruitfully, we ought therefore to grasp with both hands this _____ of obtaining what we ask.

5. More About Prayer

(a) We are _____ by God to pray

(b) We are stirred by _____ to pray

(c) The Word _____ our prayers

(d) The Holy Spirit _____ us to pray 1 John 5:14; Rom 8:26-27

(e) Christ _____ us to pray

6. Types of Prayer

_____ prayer, _____ prayer, _____ prayer, _____ prayer, _____ prayer

Next time:

Election

Institutes 3.21-24;

1689 LBCF Ch. 10

Mal. 1:2-3, Ps 65:4a, Eph 1:3-10, Rom 9:14-16