

# REFLECTOR

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*“Holding Forth the Word of Life”*

March 2023

## “JUST AS I AM”

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall. Be saved” (**Romans 10:13**).

Back in 1822 **Caesar Malan** was visiting at the home of a friend in Brighton, England. One evening he said to the daughter of his host, “I wish you were a Christian, Charlotte.” The young woman resented his speaking to her on the subject, so he felt it best to drop the matter for the moment. What he had said had disturbed her, however, and the next day she told him that she would like to be converted but didn’t know how. He explained the way of salvation but noticed that she was determined to “clean up her life” and do what she could do to first “establish her own righteousness.” She therefore would not receive the freely offered “righteousness of God” (**Romans 10:3**).

Finally Caesar Malan said, “Charlotte, you must give yourself to the Savior *just as you are!*” “What?” she exclaimed, “*You certainly do not mean that God will accept me without any works of my own, do you?*” “*I mean just that,*” was his reply.

Nothing more was said then, but shortly afterward Charlotte Elliott called upon the name of the Lord and was saved. To describe how it all happened, she wrote her famous hymn, “Just As I am without one plea, but that Thy blood was shed for me, and that Thou bidd’st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!”

Reader, if you want to be saved, you must come to Jesus *just as you are* and ask Him to wash your sins away! He never refuses such a request when it is made by a penitent, seeking soul.

**WHAT CAN WASH AWAY MY SINS?  
NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD OF JESUS?  
WHAT CAN MAKE ME WHOLE AGAIN?  
NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD OF JESUS?**

Just As I am, without one plea,  
But that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou bidd’st me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, and waiting not,  
To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, tho tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

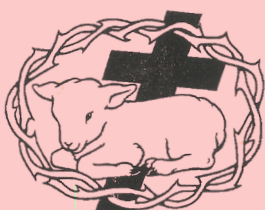
Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea, all I need in Thee I find,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am—Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!



Create in me  
a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and  
right spirit within me.  
—Psalm 51:10

**Fear not**  
*for I have redeemed you,  
I have called you by your name  
you are mine*  
Isaiah 43:1



**Behold the Lamb**

Behold the Lamb, behold the Lamb,  
Slain from the foundation of the world.  
For sinners crucified, O holy sacrifice,  
Behold the Lamb of God, behold the Lamb.  
—Dottie Rambo

## PERSPECTIVES

### Jesus and Prayer

“He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked” (**1 John 2:6**).



If we would in any serious manner seek to walk as He walked, we must consciously seek to emulate Jesus’ actions. He is our exemplar in every aspect of life. Since He made prayer top priority, we must do the same. To prioritize is to order according to importance. If a person has ten things to do on a given day and makes a “To-do list,” the first item would be the most important thing and the last item would be the least important. For Jesus, prayer was top priority. He ordered His life around prayer. Both His teachings and His example confirm the importance of prayer in His life.

Twenty-one times, Jesus taught about prayer—how to pray and how not to pray. Twenty-one times, we can observe Him praying. We can learn from both His teachings and His praying. Both the practices and teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ on the subject of prayer are worthy of careful study. He is the Master Teacher on any subject and has much to say about prayer.

Since the goal of Christian living is **Christlikeness** (**1 John 2:6**), a Christian must give prayer a large place in his life. Actually, no believer can be said to be approaching **Christlikeness** in his living who does not give prayer a large part in his life. **S. D. Gordon** observed: “There are two ways of receiving instruction; one, being told; the other, by watching someone else. The latter is the simpler and surer way. How better can we learn how to pray than by watching how Jesus prayed, and then try to imitate Him ... He Himself prayed when down here surrounded by our same circumstances and temptations.” A study of a few of the incidents of prayer in the life of Jesus recorded in the Gospels will help us understand the role of prayer in our own lives.



**1. At His baptism (Luke 3:21).** It was while waiting in prayer that Jesus received the anointing of the Holy Spirit. See **Isaiah 42:1; 61:1; Acts 10:38; Matthew 12:28**. This was a pivotal point in His life as He stepped out of the obscurity of His Nazareth home into the limelight of His Messianic ministry that would be characterized by words and works of power. Therefore, He prayed. **Lesson:** Prayer produces power. See **Acts 4:23-33**, especially v 31.

**2. Following a busy day in Capernaum (Mark 1:35; Luke 4:42).** On a busy day in Capernaum, Jesus taught in a synagogue service (freed a demon-possessed man who interrupted Him), healed Peter’s mother-in-law, and faced a great crowd of needy people. But instead of sleeping in, He arose early to pray. When the disciples found Him and reminded Him that a great crowd was waiting to see Him again, He told them that He must move on to other towns and villages. **Lesson:** The busier the day, the greater the need for time in prayer. Marching orders for the day come from the quiet place of prayer. Prayer clears the vision; defines duty; sweetens the spirit, strengthens the resolve.

**3. While being thronged with the multitudes. (Luke 5:16).** Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed. Thronged by the people with their great needs, there was little time for prayer. So at every opportunity, Jesus retired from the crowds to pray. The wording in **Luke 5:16** suggests a habit of action that pervaded His busy days of service. **Lesson:** The greater the outer pressure of our lives, the more we must guard against a shortening of our prayer time. Prayer is protection against frustration.

*Continued on page 2*

4. **Before choosing the Twelve (Luke 6:12).** Luke begins with “In those days...”—days of popularity with the pressing crowds and days of mounting hostility among the Pharisees—He needed to choose leaders who would be the foundation stones for His great spiritual edifice, the Church. **Ephesians 2:20; Revelation 21:14; Matthew 16:18.** In the quietness of an all-night prayer vigil, God the Father “gave” twelve men to Jesus. **John 17:6,9,11,12.** **Lesson:** Important decisions must be preceded by much prayer. Prayer includes listening; it is inconceivable that Jesus spent those hours asking. Every true church of the Lord Jesus Christ should follow this example in choosing officers, calling a pastor, and making other important decisions. Times of protracted prayer should precede the action.

5. **After feeding the 5,000 and facing an old temptation (Matthew 14:22-23; Mark 6:45-46; John 6:15).** Note the events that preceded His night on the mountain. Jesus received news of the death of John the Baptist, an emotional moment (**Matthew 14:12**). Wanting retirement and rest, He went to the northeast side of the lake, but crowds followed Him there (**v13**). Throughout the rest of the day, He taught them (**Mark 6:36**) and healed their sick (**Matthew 14:14**). Then He feed the entire crowd by a mighty miracle of multiplication. The crowds, whipped into an excitement by the wonder of His miracles, tried to make Him king (**John 6:15**). He sent His disciples across the lake and retired to the mountain to pray (**Matthew 14:23**). **Lesson:** Prayer brings renewed strength which is drained away by ministering to others and clarifies the perspective that often becomes foggy with people and circumstances. Like Jesus, we need to be alone with the Father to be able to walk in the light of His point of view.

6. **At Caesarea Philippi. Luke 9:18.** Jesus knew something of a solitude of the spirit that enabled Him to be alone with the Father even when others were present. **S. D. Gordon** noted: “Some of these later incidents seem to suggest that He was trying to woo them [the Twelve] into something of the same love for the fascination of secret prayer that He had.” **Lesson:** Those around us will be influenced by what they observe we do.

Both the practices and teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ provide insights into our own praying. If we would be like Christ prayer must become a vital part of our living. Be alert, as you study His teachings and observe His examples, to what lessons you can learn and appropriate in your daily living. **Christlikeness** should be our desire and our goal. No person has any more time than anyone else. We have the time to do what He wants us to do. Wise is the believer who is willing to exercise the disciple to follow the example of Jesus in His prayer life. There is no substitute for a prayer life. We must learn to order our lives around prayer, just as Jesus did.

Yours in Calvary love,  
*J. Gordon Henry*



**IN LOVING MEMORY**  
**DOORKEEPER**  
**BETTY SOMMERS (Mrs. Walt)**  
3/3/1941-2/10/2023  
Forest, Virginia  
*“Absent from the body, present  
with the Lord”*  
**2 Corinthians 5:1,8b**

Dear Dr. Henry & Sweet Sue,  
You’re such a blessing in so many ways. Our prayer for you both is that you may be in good health. Thanks so much for being our friends, our mentors, our brother and sister in Christ, and shining lights on “our path toward Heaven.”  
[Note: Walt often shares his poems/messages for the **Doorkeeper/Reflector** readers.]

Are you tired and weary?  
I have something cheery.  
As you went on your way today  
I took time for you to pray.  
I hope you could feel,  
My petition to God was real,

And you were lifted up,  
So our God you could praise!  
He is always there for us,  
Just a prayer away.  
2/5/2017



**PROGRESS REPORT. THANKS.**

As of January 1, 2023, financial affairs became the responsibility of Adam and his team. We asked that **Doorkeeper and other financial support be sent to the Baltimore address: THE PRAYER SEMINAR, P.O. BOX 42038, BALTIMORE, MD 21258-2038.** We encourage you to draft your checks to “THE PRAYER SEMINAR” (now the official name for J. Gordon Henry Ministries). For your convenience, response envelopes will continue to be included with the monthly **Reflector**. Official records are being kept and end-of-the year contribution letters will come from the Baltimore office.

Pray continue to pray earnest for Adam and his team. Then pray for the work in other nations (East-Central Africa/**Martin Shikuku**; South Africa/**Leslie Motsalane**; Singapore/**Joseph & Esther Tan**; Pakistan/**Unnamed leaders**; Nigeria/**Sunday Congo & Shem Kamla**; Brazil/**Roberto Waisman**; Cuba/**Digmar Garcia**; Botswana/**Enoch Mulumba M.D.**; and others who the prayer seminar). Pray for **Sunday Bwanhot** who conducts prayer seminars in the United States and other nations. Our desire is to continue establishing **Lighthouses of Prayer** around the world to push against the spiritual darkness that is deepening.

**Notes from My Bible**

- Note 6058.** When your world is shaking run to the Rock.  
**Note 6059.** The most powerful position on earth is kneeling before the Lord of the universe.  
**Note 6060.** An attitude of gratitude can make your life a beatitude.  
**Note 6061.** In prayer, God hears more than just words—He listens to your heart.  
**Note 6062.** God invites us to burden Him with what burdens us.  
**Note 6063.** When we put our cares in God’s hands, He puts His peace in our hearts.

**A MONTH IN VENEZUELA**

The first prayer seminars conducted in Venezuela were in July 1992. Over the years, there have been many prayer seminars throughout this beautiful country. Thousands have participated never dreaming the troubles that were coming their way. Adam and Dianna Nathanson planted two churches in Caracas. Through God’s grace, they spent the month of February back home in Venezuela. The prayer seminars were well received. Pray for a great harvest of souls as more and more believers become Lighthouses of Prayer.



**ROPEHOLDER/DOORKEEPER REPORT**

*“We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers.”*  
**1 Thessalonians 1:2**

**Thank you for giving to the Lord!**  
**“Partners Together”**

**REFLECTOR**

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