



Wells of Salvation Ministries

Sermon Outline 18 Author: Edmund E. Wells

“What Happens When We Pray”

Scripture: Matthew 6:9-13

Text: Luke 18:1

Introduction: Many of us do not really pray—we only wish for something! Prayer is more than wishful thinking—it is talking to God. God is a person; He is our Father, and we must talk to him as we would to an earthly father or anyone else. Let us consider Him—what He is not, what He is, and what He does.

I WHAT OUR GOD IS NOT

1. He is not dead
 - A. A few years ago some modernists, so called, declared that God is dead. Many of them have since died; they are dead, but our God lives on!
 - a. They would have made Him like any pagan god #1 Wood, #2 Stone, #3 Gold, #4 Silver
 - (a) Without movement, (b) Without hearing, (c) Without sight
2. He is not disinterested or detached
 - A. Some have said that God created the universe, including us, then walked off the scene, leaving us to make it by ourselves.
 - a. But He, as He said, has never left us or forsaken us!
Hebrews 13:5
 - b. Would show lack of love
 - c. Would indicate no divine plan for humans
3. He is not too busy
 - A. Elijah mocked the prophets of Baal concerning their god
 - a. He is talking I Kings 18:27
 - b. He is pursuing (busy doing something else)
 - c. He is in a journey
 - d. He's sleeping
 - e. Our God is doing none of these things.
4. He is not Santa Clause
5. He is not the tooth fairy
6. He is not a genie

II WHAT OUR GOD IS

1. He is available
2. He is ready to listen
3. He is ready to talk
 - A. "Not one dollar shall lack"
 - B. "You will be, son, just follow me" (on being ready)
 - C. Through the Word Jeremiah 30:17
 - D. With an inner assurance

- 4 . He is ready to act
- 5 . He is omniscient; He knows what to do
- 6 . He is omnipotent; He is able to do what needs to be done

III WHAT OUR GOD DOES

- 1 . He sees us
- 2 . He hears us
- 3 . He knows our needs before we tell Him Mat. 6:8
 - A. He wants us to present these petitions, display our faith
4. He gives what we need
 - A. When we need it
 - B. He knows our tolerance level
 - a. Won't let us be tempted beyond our power to endure
#1 (Daniel) Dan. 10:12-14 Angel with answer to Daniel's prayer delayed for 21 days by powerful demon. But Daniel was able to withstand

Conclusion: What happens when we pray? God hears and responds. He loves to give good gifts to His children (Matthew 7:11). Why go on without the things you need just because you don't ask for them. Pray! James 4:2.