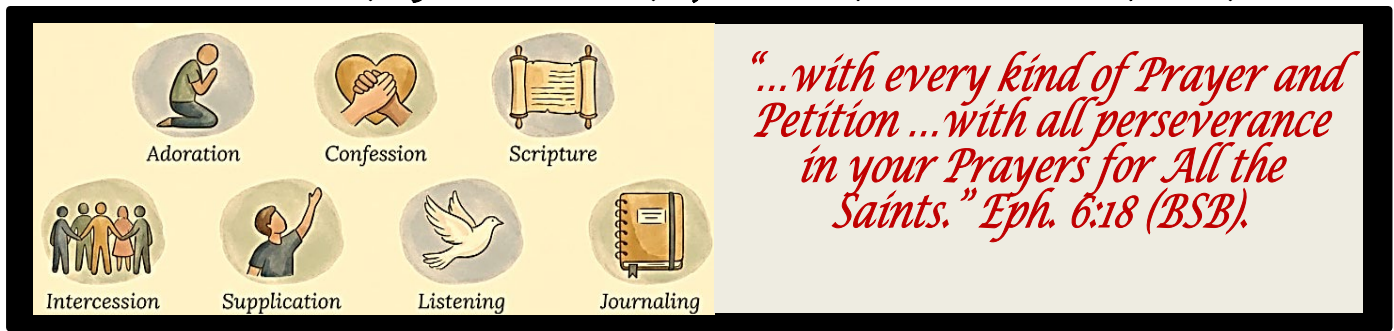


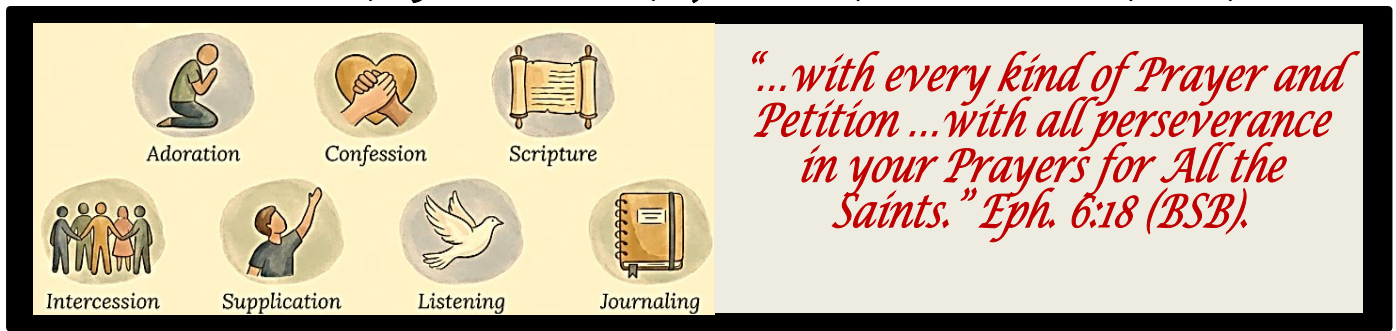


"...with every kind of Prayer and Petition ... in your Prayers for All the Saints."

The focus of the Perspective in Prayer for this week is 'Broaden your Scope of Prayer' as we look at the text ***"...with every kind of Prayer and Petition ... in your Prayers for All the Saints."*** The emphasis is on 'Every Kind, in your Prayers for All the Saints.' Some key words stand out – Every kind, Prayers, All, and Saints. These words put prayer at another level, Perspective, for consideration and action for the Christian and Church. The Phrase: "all prayer and supplication," King James Version, also rendered, "every kind of prayer and petition", Berean Standard Bible; "all kinds of prayer and requests", New International Version; and "all manner of prayers and entreaty", Amplified Bible, Classic Edition;² give indication of the direction of the prayers in the phrase, ***"... in your Prayers for All the Saints."*** My take or interpretation of the prayers under consideration is that prayer is qualified as Various, Multi-Directional, and Multifaceted. Taken together with the words, All, and Saints, Prayer needs to be Broadened in Scope and Perspectives. They speak to the Dynamic and the All-Encompassing Nature of Prayer, to the end that Prayer will yield the Power it has for the individual Christian, the Church, the world and the Kingdom of God.³

To Broaden the Scope and Perspectives of Prayer means that Prayer should have the dimensions of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgivings, Supplication, Intercession, Worship, Praise, Listening (Meditation), and Warfare, among others. All these are to be directed towards All Saints (Believers), their denomination and perceived spiritual status notwithstanding. Among these saints are Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers, Bishops, Deacons, and the Generality of Christians. And in its multi-dimensional nature, Prayer should also be for nations, cities, communities, families, the unsaved, and above all for the manifestation of the Kingdom of God on earth, through the spread of the Gospel. And all of these and other forms, done from the point of view of 'All Perseverance' – Devotion and Dedication, without a time limit. Viewed from this perspective, it is clear that what we do as prayer is a far cry from what the Lord requires of His Church. True, there are some people or even groups that work towards this direction, but much of what the body of believers do is a patchwork that falls short of the expectation. There is still too much focus on material needs, 'the give - me, give - me syndrome' made worse by the wrong focus on prosperity gospel. Yes, our God, the Creator and owner of the whole universe does not mean for us to be poor, though He also allows poverty, as the result of our continued evil deeds, He did not make us to pursue materials as a goal. He gives and will give materials as He sees needful for us to fulfil His calling upon us – His Masterpiece made for the establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven.⁴ Our prayers should take for its direction the template given by the Lord Jesus Christ – Acknowledgement, Adoration and Worship of the Almighty God, and the desire and request that His Kingdom be established in us and the generality of the earth.⁵ This failure partly explains the rebuke about the poverty of our life and prayer, which is reflected in conflicts, quarrels, murder, covetousness, adultery and enmity with God. And so, it is stated, ***"You crave what you do not have; you kill and covet, but are unable to obtain it. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask. And when you do ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may squander it on your pleasures."***⁶ Is this not the true reflection of our life, which can also be seen in the Church?

But if Christians and the Church prayed every kind of prayer and petition with the direction listed above, which are not exhaustive, as the focus, there is a very small chance for the vices listed above as characteristic of our life. Instead, the Church has been affected by denominational dichotomy and pride from perceived spiritual superiority of one individual and group over the other. This negative stance negates the harmony and oneness required in the Church for her effectiveness, which Jesus Christ prayer for.⁷ He and the Apostles did not teach denomination or spiritual superiority, but humility, oneness, love, and the commitment to the pursuit of the Great Commission.⁸ But it does not appear as if the Church is truly pursuing the Great Commission, because even where a movement in this



direction is seen, it is still bedevilled by denominational dichotomy and spiritual pride - Carnality.⁹ It must be noted that the directive to pray ***‘every kind of Prayer and Petition ... in your Prayers for All the Saints, ... with all perseverance in your prayers,’*** is in the context of the full protection of the Christian and the Church.¹⁰ Without a due recognition of this fact, and acting in consonance with its directive, the result is the weakness and casualty in the Church. In all our wisdom, we often forget that when the Christian and the Church are not doing things as the Lord has commanded – disobedience – we take ourselves out of the covering of His grace over us. This inadvertently gives the devil the opportunity to covertly operate and destroy Christians and the Church.¹¹ But a commitment to “all manner of Prayers and entreaty,” with the help and direction of the Holy Spirit, will not only ensure a continuous protective covering, but release spiritual power and discernment, which put the Christian and the Church on the Pedestal – Heavenly Places, where our Lord Himself is seated, and out of the reach of the enemy.¹² The Church then has the power to effectively pursue the Great Commission, ensuring the progressive establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven.¹³

How Rich and Powerful the Christian and Church life would be if we are committed and persevere in “all manner of prayers and entreaty”, for All Saints.¹⁴ So dear reader, it is time to ‘Broaden your Scope of Prayer.’

Have A God Centred And Focussed 2026.

Further & Daily Readings: Eph.6:10-20; Phil.4:5-7. 1.Eph.6:18; 2. Eph. 6:18a; 3. 2Chron.20:22-24; Acts 4:31-34; 12:4-12; 4. Eph. 1:11-12; 2:10; 5.Matt. 6:9-10; 6. James 4:1-4; 7. John 17:9-11,15-17; 8. John 13:13-17, 34-35; Matt.28:18-20; 9. 1Cort.3:3-4, 10. Eph.6:10-20; 11. 1Pet.5: 8; 12. Eph.1:20-23; 13. Hab.2:14; Eph.6:19-20; 14. 1Cor.2:9.