

Pray His Promises!

⁵ I said, “I beseech You, O LORD God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who preserves the covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments, ⁶ let Your ear now be attentive and Your eyes open to hear the prayer of Your servant which I am praying before You now, day and night, on behalf of the sons of Israel Your servants, confessing the sins of the sons of Israel which we have sinned against You; I and my father's house have sinned.”

Nehemiah 1:5-6 (NASB)

Observation

When we pray, we must pray with faith. But, what do we use to build our faith? In this passage, Nehemiah prays to God as a covenant to keep on loving God. There is nothing that will build your faith like praying the promises of God. When we understand that God will always keep His promises, it gives us confidence when we ask Him to use us to do great things. Nehemiah reminds himself that they are God's people and that God will restore them if they return to Him.

Nehemiah then begins to repent of those things that have opposed God in any way. He did not fail in recounting the unfaithfulness of Israel or himself. The desire of his heart was to completely align himself with God so he could hear from Him. He wanted to move to a place where he fully trusted God and believed in the promises He made. We must do the same.

Application

What is holding you back from believing God can do great things through you and your local church? Is it a lack of faith or of trust, or is it an unwillingness to follow His commands? Is it a desire to remain comfortable in your routine? Take time to examine your heart, and remind yourself of the promises of God. Ask forgiveness for whatever in your heart stands in the way of you serving God in the church and world. Realign your life with the promises of God and pray for understanding today.