

*Fr. Perozich comments —*

*I am sure that I have shared this treatise before, but I am taking some liberties to highlight some things and put bullet points so that the truths are not glossed over by the reader.*

*Prayer frequently is attributed 4 categories, ADORATION, CONTRITION, THANKSGIVING, and SUPPLICATION.*

*At the end of the treatise, I include a .pdf with the names of God so that He be lifted up in ADORATION, and a spreadsheet on which names may be added to lift up persons in SUPPLICATION and for THANKSGIVING for favors received. Catholics know well several forms of CONTRITION.*

*I do not leave the house before praying each day in these 4 ways, and come again at night for the final examen of consciousness and night prayer before sleep. I say this not to be praised but to show man's absolute need to meet God in prayer.*

## From the treatise On Prayer by Tertullian, priest

(Cap. 28-29; CCL 1, 273-274)

### The spiritual offering of prayer

*Prayer is the offering in spirit that has done away with the sacrifices of old. What good do I receive from the multiplicity of your sacrifices? asks God. I have enough of burnt offerings of rams, and I do not want the fat of lambs and the blood of bulls and goats. Who has asked for these from your hands?*

*What God has asked for we learn from the Gospel. The hour will come, he says, when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. God is a spirit and so he looks for worshipers who are like himself.*

- We are true worshipers and true priests. We pray in spirit, and so offer in spirit the sacrifice of prayer.
- **Prayer is an offering that belongs to God** and is acceptable to him: it is the offering he has asked for, the offering he planned as his own.

- We must dedicate this offering with our whole heart,
- we must fatten it on faith,
- tend it by truth,
- keep it unblemished through innocence and clean through chastity,
- and crown it with love.
- We must escort it to the altar of God in a procession of good works to the sound of psalms and hymns. **Then it will gain for us all that we ask of God.**

Since God asks for prayer offered in spirit and in truth, how can he deny anything to this kind of prayer? How great is the evidence of its power, as we read and hear, and believe.

- Of old, prayer was able to rescue from fire and beasts and hunger, even before it received its perfection from Christ. How much greater then is the power of Christian prayer.
- No longer does prayer bring an angel of comfort to the heart of a fiery furnace, or close up the mouths of lions, or transport to the hungry food from the fields. No longer does it remove all sense of pain by the grace it wins for others.
- But it gives the armor of patience to those who suffer, who feel pain, who are distressed.
- It strengthens the power of grace, so that faith may know what it is gaining from the Lord, and understand what it is suffering for the name of God.

In the past, prayer was able to bring down punishment, rout armies, withhold the blessing of rain.

- Now, however, the prayer of the just turns aside the whole anger of God,

- keeps vigil for its enemies,

- pleads for persecutors. Is it any wonder that it can call down water from heaven when it could obtain fire from heaven as well?

- **Prayer is the one thing that can conquer God.** But Christ has willed that it should work no evil, and has given it all power over good.

- Its only art is to call back the souls of the dead from the very journey into death,

- to give strength to the weak,

- to heal the sick,

- to exorcise the possessed,

- to open prison cells, to free the innocent from their chains.

- Prayer cleanses from sin,

- drives away temptations,

- stamps out persecutions,

- comforts the fainthearted,

- gives new strength to the courageous,
- brings travelers safely home,
- calms the waves,
- confounds robbers,
- feeds the poor,
- overrules the rich,
- lifts up the fallen,
- supports those who are falling,
- sustains those who stand firm.

**All the angels pray. Every creature prays.** Cattle and wild beasts pray and bend the knee. As they come from their barns and caves they look up to heaven and call out, lifting up their spirit in their own fashion. The birds too rise and lift themselves up to heaven: they open out their wings, instead of hands, in the form of a cross and give voice to what seems to be a prayer.

What more need be said on this **duty of prayer? Even the Lord himself prayed.** To him be honor and power for ever and ever. Amen.

<b>PRAISES OF GOD</b>			
Yahweh - God PRAISE	Lover of Man ADORE	Our Virtue THANK	Vine HAVE MERCY
Father	Blessed	The Beloved	Expiation
Son	Merciful	The Bread of Life	Living Bread
Holy Spirit	Mercy	Intercessor	Faithful Witness
Creator	Our Compassion	Ruler	Healer
Redeemer	Our Hope	Head of the Church	Holy One
Advocate	Righteous Judge	The Image of God	King of Kings
Way	Majesty	Son of the Most High	Lord of Lords
Truth	Our Rock	My Lord and My God	Lord of the Sabbath
Life	Our Passover	Rabbuni	Temple
Son of the Most High	King of the Jews	Promise	Temple's Lord
Son of Man	Intercessor	Cornerstone	Head of the Church
Son of God	Chosen One	First born from the dead	Prince of Life
Son of Abraham	Our Refuge	The Resurrection	My Lord and My God
Son of David	Our Strength	Our Passover	Prophet
Son of Joseph	Our Helper	Meek & Humble of Heart	Radiant Light
Son of Mary	Faithful Witness	Beginning and End	Life
Carpenter's Son	Our Integrity	The Word of God	Corner Stone
Wonder Counsellor	Founder of our faith	The Word Made Flesh	Our Sacrifice
God Hero	Perfecter of our Faith	Love of my heart	Lamb of God
Father Forever	The Power of God	Bridegroom	Radiance of Glory
Prince of Life	Source of Blessings	Master	High Priest
Prince of Peace BLESS	Just One GLORIFY	Spiritual Rock BESEECH	Father of the Poor H.S.
Image of the Invisible God	Heir to all things	Light to the Nations	Source of all our store
One	The Ruler of the Kings	Hope of the Nations	Comforter the best
Forgiveness	Warrior for Justice	Glory of Your People	Soul's most welcome guest
Dayspring	Mediator	Savior	Sweet refreshment below
Morning Star	The Foundation	Nazarene	Sweet rest from our labors
Key of David	God's Secret	Messiah	Grateful coolness
Root of Jesse	Faithful and True	King of the Jews	Solace in midst of woe
Wisdom	First in Every way	Faithful & True	Blessed Light Divine
Emmanuel	Firstborn	Our Passover	Light shining in our Hearts
First Born	High Priest	The Crucified	Fullness of inmost being
Giver of the Law	Eldest brother	Good Shepherd	Healer of our wounds
Our Justice	Last Adam	Chosen One	Renewer of our strength
Rabbi	Almighty	Bishop of Souls	Dew for our dryness
Teacher	Covenant of the People	Beloved	Washing our guilt away
Only Begotten Son	Servant of Yahweh	Jesus	Bender of heart and will
Lord	Our Salvation	Servant	Warming our chill
Adonai	Master Craftsman	True God and True Man	Melting our frozenness
Amen	I AM	Man of Sorrows	Guide when we go astray
Liberator	Source of Creation	Eldest Brother	Giver of sevenfold gift
Alpha	Shield	Gate of the Sheepfold	Giver of virtue's reward
Omega	Defender	Our Holiness	Giver of joy without end

