

Heart ² Heart With God "Thy Prayers are heard"

Zacharias was a priest in the time of Herod the king of Judaea. His wife's name was Elisabeth. They both did not have any children since Elisabeth was barren. **They both were righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.**(Luke1:5-7). What a testimony!

According to his turn he went into the Temple for burning incense. People were standing outside praying. At that time at the right side of the altar angel appeared to Zacharias. He was trouble and afraid. But the angel said to him, "Fear not, Zacharias, **for thy prayers is heard;** and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. (Luke 1:9-13).

Cornelius the gentile centurion was a God-rearing man. He was not idol worshiper but a worshiper of True and living God, One God! Look what the Bible says about him:"**A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always**" (Acts 10:2). He saw a vision, an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius, And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, what is it Lord? And he said unto him, **thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.** (Act 10:3-4).

The most important thing here to notice in both of these Bible characters is they both were devout to true and living God! **Zacharias was a Jew**, believing Jehovah God, **Cornelius was a gentile** supposed to worship many gods (idols), but he was worshiping only One God and giving alms to the poor. He alone was not like that but his family along with him was believing in One God and were devoted to Him. **This is most important in the sight of God!** Then after that the Bible says that God sent an angel to tell them that, their prayers are heard!

Zacharias was a priest and he was a **worshiper of Jehovah and minister of God**. His prayer concern was both he and his wife did not have a child. Their prayer was answered and God gave them a son, John. Here in the case of Cornelius He did not know the True and Living God, Jehovah, but he believed in one God and not many gods and also he was helping people with alms too. Cornelius **first and foremost need was that he should know the True and Living God, in other words he must hear the Good News of Jesus Christ**. God met his this need that he and his family must hear the Gospel and get into the right relationship with True and Living God through Jesus Christ his Beloved Son's shed Blood! That was wonderfully met by sending Peter!

Whether you are Jew or Gentile, rich or poor, the condition is you must believe in One True and Living God, and be righteous before God in all things, in other words **you must love God with all your hearts, mind, soul and strength and love others as yourself** (Luke 10:27). And this kind of character opens the door for your prayers to be heard by Go.

Now here I would like to mention that after the Cross the righteousness of Jesus Christ has become our righteousness: "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, **that we might be made the righteousness of God in him**" (II Corinthians 5:21). Before the cross of Jesus Christ righteousness was counted by obedience to the Law of Moses! And we could see from these two beautiful characters **Zacharias** was a **righteous people** before God walking in all the commandments, and believing in One True and living God! Cornelius was devout man to one unknown God and helping others with alms.

We can see that the same principle works at present time too. As the Bible says that righteousness of Jesus Christ has become our righteousness we need to walk in **Agape (Divine love)**, forgiving others who have hurt us by their irresponsible utterances or indifferent behavior! **Forgiving others and loving others like ourselves is the key of righteous living before God! Righteous living involves: loving God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength and to love others as ourselves and help others in their needs!**

Our prayers will come before God as **memorials** and will be answered and we will rejoice to know that!

May our good Lord continue to bless you and your families! Prema and I love you so dearly and pray for you daily! Write us for we love to hear from you!

Remember, **Jesus is Lord** and take with you **the Word of God and Faith**, excellent traveling Companions.
(Psalms 119:105; II Corinthians 5:7)



PRAY FOR US!

Please pray for our 4 Pastors' families including me and Prema.
For the safety and for the provision and protection at this time.

**Partner with us
Make a difference!**