

individuals who belong to Him with whom we have come in contact, of praying for those portions of His work which He has laid upon our hearts. God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you.

Jesus Christ was the Son of God. He was the Second Person of the Trinity. He was the Creator of the universe. He came to this world for a little over thirty years, and He had tremendous tasks to perform. He had work to do. He had teaching to give. He had disciples to call. He had the preparation to lay for His sacrificial death on Calvary's Cross. He had a tremendous amount to do, but the Bible tells us that time after time Jesus Christ spent hours in prayer. As you read the gospels you ~~cannot~~ cannot but be impressed with the great importance that the Lord Jesus Christ laid upon prayer, not only in what He said, in what He commanded us, but in what He actually did Himself. If He needed to pray, what about us? If He needed to give us this great stress, what about us? Are we giving the attention to prayer that ....10..... did, hour by hour, week by week. Paul said, Pray without ceasing. Are we giving it the place that it is entitled to have?

Anyone who reads the Scripture knows that God answers prayer. There are things that are not done in God's economy, because His people do not pray. There are things that are not done in our own lives because His people do not pray as they should. You are all familiar, I believe, with James 5:17, 18, but they are worth reading again. I think, in fact, we should start a verse earlier, v.16. "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another that ye may be healed. The affectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." Elijah was a man.... Well, it is as if/he says ~~her~~ <sup>right here</sup> and somebody says, Yes, James, I know. The prayer of the Lord Jesus could avail much. He is the righteous man. He is God. He is pure from sin. His prayer was tremendously important, but what's the use of my praying? What can I do? I have no righteousness. It is filthy rags before God. What can I do? He continues, "Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are." Elijah was not a perfect man, but Elijah prayed earnestly that it