

DUETERONOMY 9:20, 26-29 -- PRAYER FOR AARON & THE NATION, ISRAEL!

1/6/2018 Sat Morn Prayer – Phil Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS! –Thomas Chisholm – Willaim Runyan – sung by Tom Fettke

*Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not; as Thou hast been Thou forever will be.
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided; great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth. Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy
faithfulness! Lord, unto me!*

The Biblical Setting: Moses continues his sermon to the present generation, as he is giving them full preparation prior to going into the Promised Land. He commands their obedience; reviews the Ten Commandments; gives them the Greatest Commandment; reminds them why they are a chosen people—because of God’s faithfulness and love for them, not because of anything they are or have done; and now reviews Israel’s rebellions. - Horeb - golden calf (*Ex. 32*); Taberah-complained leeks & garlic (*Num. 11*); Massah, Meribah- thirsty, strikes rock (*Ex. 17*); Kibroth Hattaavah- no meat, quail sent (*Num. 11:34*); Kadesh Barnea- sending out spies (*Num. 13*):

Deu 9:20 *And the LORD was very angry with Aaron and would have destroyed him; so I prayed for Aaron also at the same time.* Aaron’s sin at Mt. Horeb (golden calf incident), detailed in **Exo 32:1-35**, was so bad, that he surely would have been destroyed by the LORD - except Moses prayed for him. This shows both the prevailing power of Moses’ prayer and the great love in the heart of Moses. With great difficulty Moses prevailed to turn away the wrath of God, and prevent their utter ruin. He fasted and prayed forty days and forty nights before he could obtain their pardon, **Deu 9:18**. And some think twice forty days.

Then, following the rebellion review of Taberah, Massah, Kibroth Hattaavah, Kadesh Barnea:
Deu 9:26 *Therefore I prayed to the LORD, and said: 'O Lord GOD, do not destroy Your people and Your inheritance whom You have redeemed through Your greatness, whom You have brought out of Egypt with a mighty hand.*

And I prayed therefore unto the Lord,.... This appears to be a different prayer from that in **Exo 32:31** and agrees more closely with that in **Deu 9:11**, but it seems it was delivered at another forty days and nights: *and said: 'O Lord GOD, do not destroy Your people and Your inheritance:* because they were His inheritance, a people whom He had chosen for His peculiar treasure; this is the **first argument** used, **another follows: whom You have redeemed through Your greatness**, redeemed out of the house of bondage, the land of Egypt, by His great power, as next explained:
whom You have brought out of Egypt with a mighty hand.: inflicting plagues on the Egyptians, particularly destroying their firstborn, which made them urge the Israelites to depart.

Deu 9:27 *Remember Your servants, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; do not look on the stubbornness of this people, or on their wickedness or their sin,*

Remember Your servants Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: Moses asked for mercy upon Israel because of God’s past faithfulness to the patriarchs. The covenant He had made with them, the promises He had made to them of their multiplication and of giving the land of Canaan to them, **a third argument** used with the Lord not to destroy them:

do not look on the stubbornness of this people, or on their wickedness or their sin,

Nor to the natural temper and disposition of the people, which was to be stubborn, obstinate, stiffnecked, and self-willed; nor to their wickedness, which appears in various instances; nor to that particular sin of idolatry they had now been guilty, of owning that if God looked to these things, there was sufficient reason to destroy them.

Deu 9:28 lest the land from which You brought us should say, "Because the LORD was not able to bring them to the land which He promised them, and because He hated them, He has brought them out to kill them in the wilderness."

Lest the land from which You brought us should say, "Because the LORD was not able": Moses asked for mercy upon Israel because of concern for the glory of God's own name and His reputation among the nations.

The land of Egypt, the inhabitants of it:

to bring them to the land which He promised them; the land of Canaan, the inhabitants of it being so mighty, and their cities so strongly fortified. Here Moses expresses his concern for the glory of God, and the honor of His perfections, and makes that a **fourth argument** why He should not destroy them:

and because He hated them, He has brought them out to kill them in the wilderness; out of Egypt, a plentiful country, into a wilderness where nothing was to be had; but His choice of them for His inheritance, His redemption of them out of bondage and misery, the care He took of them, and the provision He had made for them in the wilderness, clearly showed that they were not the objects of His hatred, but of His love.

Deu 9:29 Yet they are Your people and Your inheritance, whom You brought out by Your mighty power and by Your outstretched arm.'

Your people . . . Your inheritance . . . You brought out . . . Your mighty power . . . Your outstretched arm: Moses asked for mercy upon Israel because they were God's people. We can seek the mercy and power of God through prayer by praying with the same heart and by pleading the same reasons before the LORD.

Prayer on solid reasons like these is far more effective than merely casting wishes up towards heaven.

- Because of God's past faithfulness to us
- Because of His past faithfulness to our forefathers
- Because of His own glory and reputation among the nations
- Because we are His people

Keeping these things in mind is also a way to refine our prayers. When we pray only for the things consistent with God's glory, we have our hearts set on the right things.

1Jn 5:14-15 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. [15] And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

SUMMARY:

- **What an example of intercessory prayer by Moses for Aaron and for the nation of Israel!**
- **Notice how Moses is standing on the promises and the faithfulness of God:**
- **Because of God's past faithfulness to us**
- **Because of His past faithfulness to our forefathers**
- **Because of His own glory and reputation among the nations**
- **Because we are His people**
- **We can seek the mercy and power of God through prayer by praying with the same heart and by pleading the same reasons before the LORD**

Pray Today For: Our Church, Nationally/locally; Our Nation: Our leaders; Police officers/military. Supreme Ct. Justices: John Roberts, Jr., Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas, Ruth Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Samuel Alito, Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan and Neil Gorsuch; President & V.P.: Donald & Melania Trump; Mike & Karen Pence. General James Kelly. The Cabinet and all advisors. Christopher Wray, F.B.I.

Please Note: You may see/download any of the past notes/audio of the Bible Prayer Devotionals by going to: www.ptwente.com .