Your identity is in Christ

In order to pray the prayer of faith you will need the confidence to stand against the devil, who will certainly come and test your faith. These wonderful redemptive truths will strengthen you and empower you to stand and prevail against whatever the devil brings against you. Romans 5:8-11 reveal several foundational truths you must have rooted in your heart.

Romans 5:8-11 But **God demonstrates His own love toward us**, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been **justified by His blood**, we shall be **saved from wrath** through Him. 10 For if when we were enemies we were **reconciled to God** through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be **saved by His life**. 11 And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have **now received the reconciliation.**

The first thing you must understand in your heart is, God loves you. He demonstrated His great love for you by sending His only begotten Son to redeem you, so that you could be reconciled to Him. Here are a few scriptures you can look up and meditate on that proclaim this wonderful truth of God’s great love for you.

John 3:16-17, 1 John 4:7-16, John 15:9-11, 1 John 3:1-3, Ephesians 2:4-6, 1 John 3:16, Matthew 11:28-30.

You will also have to be free from condemnation, guilt, and shame to pray this powerful prayer of faith (Romans 8:1). Satan is going to come after your identity. You must know who you are in Christ Jesus (1 John 4:17). You must understand the difference between the Old and New Covenants.

2 Corinthians 3:14-18 But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. 15 But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. 16 Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

The Old Testament Law of Moses placed a veil over the minds of people. This Old Testament Law required you to obey it perfectly in order to be in right standing (righteous) before God. The purpose of this Law was to prove to mankind he was a sinner and could not obey God’s perfect law of love. Its purpose was to point God’s people to Jesus, who would come and save them. This Old Testament Law put everyone under condemnation. The Good News is Jesus came and removed the requirement of having to be perfect to become righteous.

Colossians 2:13-15 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection wiped out this requirement. Jesus came as a substitute. He came as a sacrificial Lamb. He came to make an exchange with mankind. God needed the innocent blood of a human being to make atonement for man’s sin. Since there was no human that was innocent, He sent His only Begotten Son to die in our place. When Jesus went to the cross, God placed the sins of the whole world on Him and He bore our sins. Then He punished Jesus with all of His wrath for sin and it broke Jesus’ body. Jesus died. He was buried. After three days He rose again from the dead as our High Priest. He took His own blood to heaven and placed it on the Mercy Seat in heaven and purchased eternal redemption. Jesus’ sacrifice paid the debt for man’s sin, once and for all. Jesus’ blood now justifies us before God, for His blood testifies to God that His death on the cross paid the debt for man’s sin in full, therefore, God will never count our sins against us. All who will believe this gospel will receive the forgiveness of sins. They will become born again and receive a free gift of righteousness and an inheritance of all the promises of God and eternal life in heaven.

Romans 3:19-23 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. 20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. 21 But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference;

The Old Testament Law of Moses caused the whole world to become guilty before God. The Old Testament Law revealed what sin was, therefore, man was without excuse because the Law defined what sin was. No one was justified by the Law because no one could keep it. However, God revealed a way to be righteous that was apart from the Law. He revealed that the true righteousness of God was by faith in His Son Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)

All who will believe the gospel must receive these truths into their hearts. Their sins are forgiven and will never be counted against them. They are qualified to receive an inheritance of every promise written in the Bible (the abundance of grace) and they are given a free gift of righteousness, which puts them in right standing with God.

Romans 4:5-8 But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, 6 just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works: 7 "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And whose sins are covered; 8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord shall not impute sin."

You must understand that your good works and behavior is not what makes you acceptable to God. It is your faith to believe the gospel. When you believe the gospel, God imparts righteousness to you apart from your good works. Your sins are forgiven, and God will not count your sins against you. You must establish this truth in your heart, for Satan will certainly come to your mind every time you commit a sin and accuse you. His desire is to bring you under condemnation. You must resist him with these wonderful truths of redemption.

Galatians 3:13-14 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), 14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

The curse of the Law is the judgment for sin. This curse is recorded in Deuteronomy 28:15-68. If you broke one of the Laws of Moses, which would be considered sin, you would be punished with this curse. Sickness, disease, and pain are all recorded in this curse. On the cross, God placed the sins of the whole world on Jesus. Then He punished Jesus with this entire curse. Jesus bore ours sins and He bore our judgment for sin. In doing so, He redeemed us from all sin and from the Curse of the Law. All who believe the gospel are considered forgiven and righteous in God’s sight. God does not count our sins against us, nor does He punish us for our sins. However, Satan will come to your mind and accuse you of sin and he will afflict you with the curse of the Law. He is an outlaw and he does these things illegally. If you do not understand who you are in Christ and what your redemption is, Satan will be successful in condemning you and afflicting you. If you understand your redemption from all sin and all judgment, you will resist him, and he will flee from you (James 4:7).

Romans 4:20-25 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. 22 And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness." 23 Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, 24 but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

The blessing of Abraham is first and foremost the position of righteousness before God with your faith. God promised Abraham he would have a son and through his son all the families on the earth would be blessed. He also promised to give his descendants the Promised Land of Canaan. Abraham believed God and He counted his faith as righteousness. In the same way, God has said, if you will believe that Jesus bore your sins and your judgment for sin on the cross, He died, was buried, and rose again after three days, He would count your faith as righteousness. You are righteous because you have believed the gospel and have invited Jesus to come and live in your heart.

Genesis 12:2-3 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

The blessing of Abraham is to bless your life, to give you favor, and to make you a blessing. Notice, there is no curse attached to this blessing.

Hebrews 6:13, 18 For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, 14 saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you 18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

The blessing of Abraham is to bless you and multiply you. This blessing is based on two immutable things. The first thing is Jesus’ shed blood. He shed His blood and died on the cross. He paid the debt for your sins in full. Therefore, God will never count your sins against you, for you are forever forgiven of your sins. Jesus’ blood justifies you before God by testifying that Jesus has paid the price for sin in His death on the cross. All who will believe this will be forgiven of their sins, reconciled to God, be given an inheritance of the abundance of grace and a free gift of righteousness. The second thing is Jesus broke His body. All of God’s wrath for man’s sin was placed on Jesus and it broke His body. He bore the entire curse of the Law and redeemed you from all sickness, disease, and pain. God does not count your sin against you, nor will He afflict you with the curse of the Law. However, Satan will certainly attempt to condemn you and afflict you. When he does you can stand in confidence and resist him with the prayer of faith. God will respond to the prayer of faith and heal you every time.