

PRAYER AND GOD'D WORD

This is what the LORD says: “. . . I will bless those who have humble and contrite hearts, who tremble at my word.”

Isaiah 66:1-2

Many of us are so occupied with how much or how little we have to say in our prayers that the voice of One speaking is never heard because it is not expected or waited for. We need to get into the right frame of mind and have a listening attitude.

In regard to the connection between prayer and the Word of God in our private devotion, this expression has often been quoted “I pray, I speak to God; I read the Bible, God speaks to me.” We need to ask how our Scripture reading and praying can become true fellowship with God.

A prayerful spirit is the spirit to which God will speak. Prayer prepares the heart for receiving the Word from God Himself, for the teaching of the Spirit to give the spiritual understanding of it, for the faith that is made part of its mighty working.

In God's Word we read what God will do in me, how God would have me come to Him in prayer, assurance that I will be heard, and what God will do in the world. A prayerful spirit will be a listening spirit waiting to hear what God says. In true communion with God, His presence and the part He takes must be real as my own.

Let us prepare ourselves to pray with a heart that humbly waits to hear God speak. The greatest blessing in prayer will be our ceasing to pray to let God speak.¹

¹ Andrew Murray, Teach Me To Pray