

Faith Bible Church

The Logos: John 1:1 Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος, In beginning was the Logos, and the Logos was with God, and the Logos was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ . . . There was the true light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. ¹⁴ And the Logos became flesh (Καὶ ὁ λόγος σὰρξ ἐγένετο), and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Isagogics: Consider how this would have resonated with 1st century people given their cosmology. What an exalted view of Jesus Christ! Consider modern views of cosmology—just how everyone believes what goes against their experience. One might wonder what other things have minds been so thoroughly trained by the era in which they live.

Questions?

These slides will be available at
www.fbcweb.org/sermons.html

Pastor Don

Philosophical/Theological/Doctrinal & Spiritual Foundations

- Bible Doctrines**
- Eschatology
 - Thanatology
 - Ecclesiology
 - Israelology
 - Dispensationalism
 - Doxology
 - Hodology
 - Soteriology
 - Hamartiology
 - Natural Law (DE, Gvt, Econ.)
 - Anthropology
 - Angelology
 - Pneumatology
 - Christology
 - Paterology
 - Trinitarianism
 - Theology Proper
 - Bibliology
 - Prolegomena: logic (26)

Broad and deep understanding of BD

2 Corinthians 10:5 We are destroying speculations (λογισμός) and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.

Mature Believer

- Mind of JC, OWC, PLG
- Great depth of BD
- Supergrace life
- Great Divine Production
- Absolute Confidence
- Life beyond dreams

Enough BD to be overcomer; DV

1 John 2:14, "you are strong, and the word of God abides in you"

Adolescent

- Overcomer of KD
- Committed to BD
- Committed to Truth

Lacks BD, DV

Eph 4:14, "tossed here and there by waves, & carried about by every wind of *doctrine.*"

Babe

- Undeveloped 2nd, 3rd, order mental capacities in doctrinal conceptualization
- Still has a lot of philosophical HV baggage.
- Feelings oriented

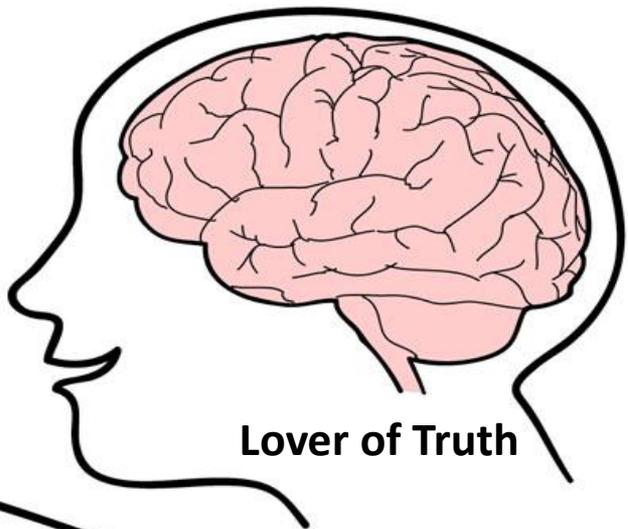
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Active Learner – Ever-growing Mind

**Healthy Growing
Christian Mind**

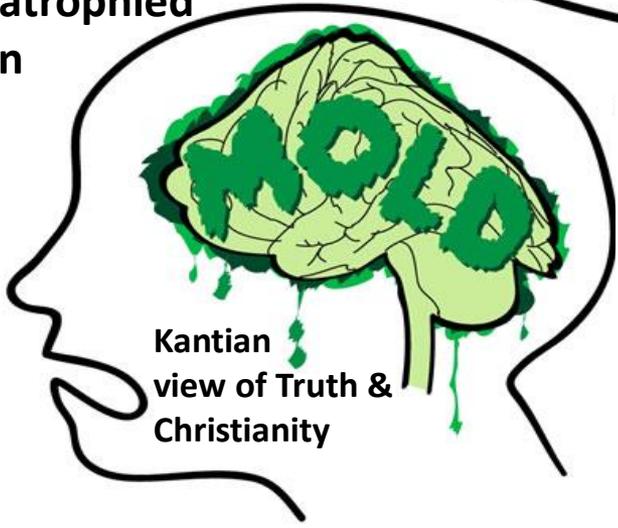
Growing Spiritual IQ

**Aficionado of Truth
-- not religion!**



Lover of Truth

**Hylomorphism &
the atrophied
brain**



**Kantian
view of Truth &
Christianity**

**A saved soul but
increasingly atrophied
mind and brain- due to
anti-intellectualism.
Believer is captured by
philosophies of KD
which are coated with
Christian vocabulary.**

**Captured through deception of
philosophy, Col 2:8.**

The two aspects of loving the Lord with all of your heart, soul, and mind



Spiritual Growth *in Jesus Christ*

- The Spiritual life.
- Personal relationship with God
- Development of spiritual virtue
- F-Ship, FRL, CCL, OWC, the supergrace life.
- Conformity to and maturity in Jesus Christ, Eph. 4:12-16.
- Serious and maturing disciple of Jesus Christ.



Intellectual Growth *in Christianity*²

- Logic, Truth, metaphysics, critical thinking skills in presuppositions
- Philosophical development of theology proper, especially on the attributes of God
- Equipped to defend the Faith, Col. 2:8; Jude 1:4-5; 2 Peter 3:15.
- Scholar of Christianity
- Defender of Christianity.

What are some of the aberrations of *only* focusing in on *your* spiritual life?

The high price of ignorance is always

syncretism (cf. the Kantisms of behaviorism, existentialism, humanism, pragmatism, relativism, agnosticism, anti-metaphysicalism, fideism, rejection of proofs of the existence of God. Note the extent of the influence: scientists, theologians, economists, politicians, sociologists, psychologists, educators, and for that matter the rest of the human race.) All spawned from Mr. Immanuel Kant.

What are some of the aberrations of Christians who only focus on the intellectual aspects of Christianity (philosophy, apologetics)?

The high price of lack of personal relationship with Christ is always evil, usually in the area of pride & arrogance.

Logic and the Mind

1. Logic is simply about reality and Truth as per its 4 laws: non-contradiction, excluded middle, identity, and inference.
2. Your immaterial soul (which is diffused throughout your body) has the attribute of mind which functions through the physical brain. There is a very close connection between your metaphysical mind and your very physical brain. Technically, there is no such thing as mental illness anymore than a mind can catch a virus. However, due to the hylomorphic nature of man, the mind can adversely affect the brain and vice versa. While the physical activity in your brain can be scanned, your actual immaterial thoughts will never be read by anyone but you.
3. In the three acts of the mind, the goal is to get to Reality. The mind uses concepts, propositions, and makes inferences. The concepts or terms are only tools in enabling the mind to grasp those *realities*.

The Mind attempting to get at Reality

Exercises to illustrate how the mind seeks reality and evaluates and uses concepts and terms to get to Reality.

1. The end of a thing is its purpose and perfection, and death is the end of life, therefore death is life's purpose and perfection.
2. Cancer is made up of human cells, and whatever is made of human cells is human and what is human should not be killed, so cancer should not be killed.
3. Condemned prisoner to judge: "You're supposed to do justice, judge. But you've just done a bad thing, and a bad thing can't be just, because justice is a good thing, not a bad thing." "What bad thing have I done?" "You've lowered my self-esteem in declaring me guilty. Self-esteem is good, and you've taken away something good, so you're bad. You should be punished instead of me."

The Mind attempting to get at Reality

4. How is term spiritual used? How do you know?
- **Ephesians 6:12** For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual (πνευματικός) *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.
 - **1 Corinthians 3:1** And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual (πνευματικός) men, but as to men of flesh, as to babes in Christ.

The Mind attempting to get at Reality

4. How is term spiritual used? How do you know?
- **Galatians 6:1** Brethren, even if a man is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual (πνευματικός) restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; *each one* looking to yourself, lest you too be tempted.
 - **1 Corinthians 15:44** it is sown a natural body, it is raised a **spiritual** (πνευματικός) body. If there is a natural body, there is also a **spiritual** (πνευματικός) *body*.

Resurrection Special #53: A Walkthrough from
the Lord's Supper to the Tomb: Prayer -1

Matthew 26:36-456

**We now are in the
Garden of Gethsemane**

1. Pride in Gethsemane.

2. Prayer.

3. The love of God (U.A.)

Resurrection &
the Spiritual Life
in the Epistles

A Walkthrough of the
Resurrection Narratives

**A Walkthrough
from the Lord's Supper to the Tomb**

6 Ways of Falsifying Naturalism

The Failure of All Alternate Theories

Bedrock Facts: Death of JC & Multiple Appearances

Historiography: Establishing Historical Proof
for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ



Prayer

Matthew 26:36-45

1. Jesus Christ had just given the disciples a great deal of doctrine at the Last Supper as recorded in John 14-17 (the importance of the Word of God and abiding in Him, the attacks of the kosmos, the ministry of the Holy Spirit) and then He prayed for Himself and for them, John 17.
2. It was in the Garden of Eden where man fell by yielding to temptation to reject the will of God (by partaking of the knowledge of the good and evil tree). It was in the Garden of Gethsemane (“olive press”) where the Perfect Man fully submitted Himself to the will of God on behalf of all men.

Prayer

3. Jesus went to God the Father in prayer when He was in enormous stress as he contemplated the burden of the sins of the world and his separation from God the Father. He truly took on our sorrows and griefs as predicted in Isa. 53:4-5. Jesus' posture tells us something of the extent of His face to face prayer.
4. The stress on Jesus was not caused by the impending physical suffering, the torture of the scourge and the cross, the mental anguish of betrayal, denial and desertion by his friends, the mockery and abuse of his enemies or his physical death.

5. The self-described stress of Jesus (*agonia*, appalled reluctance; *ademoneo*, loathing aversion; *synecho*, tormented; *perilupos*, mental pain; *ekthambeomai*, horror struck) was related to drinking the cup of God's wrath. He was to become so identified with sinners as to bear their judgment. From this contact with human sin his sinless soul recoiled. From the experience of alienation from his Father which the judgment on sin would involve, he recoiled in horror. He knew that He would be cursed of God. This thought overwhelmed Him.

6. God the Father answered the prayer by giving Christ strength. It was not possible for this cup to pass. God's purpose of love was to save sinners, and to save them righteously; but this would be impossible without the sin-bearing of the Savior. Jesus entered the Garden suffering and came out with strength moving toward his enemies with resolve.
- **John 18:11** Jesus therefore said to Peter, "Put the sword into the sheath; the cup which the Father has given Me, shall I not drink it?"
 - Christ is both the High Priest (Heb. 4:15-16) and Sacrifice as He offers Himself as the victim with this prayer of consecration. He submits and accepts the Cross.

7. Christ's prayer is the pattern for all true prayer. There are human wishes ("if it be possible," e.g., the shrinking from the painful), but in the end all prayers must be followed by "*nevertheless* not our wills but His."

8. The purpose of prayer is never to force our wills on God, but to bend our wills to His; and it is always answered as we bow in submission to the Lord. This is the only place of victory, blessings, and peace. This is where you find real peace and power in life. So many of the agitations of life are defeated by simply submitting to God's will. There is always peace when we resign ourselves to the will of God. This is the only place of perfect calm. For Him, as for us, "crosses" accepted cease to be a pain in our wills, and the cups are no longer bitter when we are content to drink them.

9. Note how pride and arrogance makes one lethargic regarding prayer and the spiritual life, Matt. 26:40-41.
10. One of the greatest things a believer can do is to start each day with prayer for grace to walk humbly with God throughout each day and live for Him and not others. It does wonders for life, cf. Eph. 6:5-6.
11. Watchfulness and prayerfulness are inseparable. The one discerns the danger, the other arms against them. Watchfulness keeps us prayerful, and prayerfulness keeps us watchful. To watch without praying is presumption, to pray without watching is hypocrisy. This is a key to overcoming many difficulties in life. Failure to watch is to fall into many temptations. Failure to watch and pray leads to the self-centered life rather than the CCL.

12. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. By watching and praying we recognize the weaknesses of flesh. Recognizing our weak flesh will spur us to be more prayerful regarding the issues of life. All believers battle with the world, the flesh, and the Devil.

13. Failure to watch and pray, Matt. 26:45. His Word had no effect on them. He did not even wake them up the second time. The relapse is even worse than the original evil. We do not know how long this lasted, though the whole period in the Garden must have been measured by hours.

14. Note Christ's love, grace, and power. He wakes them, not to run from His enemy, but forward to His enemy. He will go out and meet His traitor. Escape would have been easy.

15. All believers have their “gardens” of suffering, loneliness, sorrow, and distress. The hardest part is simply accepting the will of God.

16. Through biblical prayer even the most unbelievable pain and tragedy can be turned into a time of great strength and comfort as the believer accepts the will of God and moves into an epignosis relationship with the Lord that is above all one can ask or imagine. Regardless of what a believer faces, through biblical prayer the believer can receive the most fantastic strength regardless of how the prayer is answered.

17. Philippians 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Note the context, Philip. 4:4-6.

- The spiritual dynamics of rejoicing (Χαίρετε) in (έν) the Lord always (πάντοτε).
- “Forbearance (έπιεικής) . . . to all men.” *Epieikes* has the idea of being ready to forgive (cf. LXX) as well as not insisting on your way. This is genuine humility. The term has the idea of being charitable towards men’s faults and merciful in judgment at their failings because of fair-mindedness. This is grace orientation This is the outshining of joy in the Lord. God’s grace always provides grace disposition.
- The Lord is near in fellowship (LXX) as well as eschatologically.

17. **Philippians 4:6** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

- **“Be anxious for nothing”** (μηδὲν μεριμνᾶτε). This imperative is impossible apart from total trust in God’s care and provision. Worrying has been called by theologians and Bible scholars unconscious blasphemy. Worry is always a result of lack of trust and personal relationship with God. Worry was about the only thing for which the Lord chided the disciples.
- **“but in everything”** (ἀλλ’ ἐν παντί). This refers to every circumstance.
- **“by prayer”** (τῆ προσευχῆ). The Greek word emphasizes *face to face* prayer. Prayer is so powerful. Face to face prayer can get you through anything in life. Not a ritual, it is face to face contact with God. This is so powerful. What a special privilege we have of this face to face prayer with God. The term emphasizes the relationship.

17. Philippians 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

- **“and supplication”** (τῆ δεήσει).
 - ✓ This is a bit different than standard prayer. This is petition and entreaty for your specific and personal needs. As you advance in the spiritual life you should petition God for specific personal needs. We all have specific and personal and special needs. Many have not because they ask not, James 4:3. He is waiting for your freewill expression in the midst of the angelic conflict.
 - ✓ In your spiritual battle there will be certain things you will not be able to handle and you will need to pray—consider Gethsemane.
 - ✓ Never take prayer for granted. This is a special privilege as part of the royal family of God. We have so many benefits as royal members never been given before in all of human history. Prayer is one of the most overlooked blessings.

17. Philippians 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

- “**with thanksgiving**” (μετὰ εὐχαριστίας). Plural and it occurs in the times of testing even *before* the petitions are granted. Giving thanks for the difficulties of life as the Lord becomes more real to you! You can do this if you trust the nature and character of God.
 - ✓ **Philippians 2:14** Do all things without grumbling or disputing;
 - ✓ **Ephesians 5:20** always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;
 - ✓ **1 Thessalonians 5:18** in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

18. It is important for every believer to realize just what a privilege it is to come before the Father for general prayer and for specific needs for self or others. If you have needs and things are not going right, then try prayer. It has nothing to do with earning or deserving anything—it is about grace, Heb. 4:16. God is not there just to hear your voice. He seeks fellowship with you in prayer.
19. Biblical prayer is to be addressed to God the Father, Mat 6:6-9; Eph. 1:17; 1 Pet. 1:17
- ✓ **1 Peter 1:17** And if you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each man's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay *upon earth*;

20. Prayer is through the person and work of Jesus Christ, John 14:13-14;
21. Prayer is to be done under the power of the Holy Spirit, Eph. 6:18.
 - **Ephesians 6:18** With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,
22. The concept of prayer pursuit, Luke 11:1-13. We are enjoined by Jesus to ask. There are so many promises God has for the believer. **Ask . . . Seek . . . Knock.** We are enjoined by Jesus to keep asking—a right you will never lose. We have so many promises but there are certain conditions, but it is not about “being good.”

23. God is not interested in prayer as a ritual—prayer for the sake of just praying. He is not interested in lip service. He is very interested in biblical prayer where the believer comes to the Lord in personal relationship and with confidence in His promises in His Word.
- **Mark 7:6** And He said to them, "Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far away from Me. ⁷ 'But in vain do they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.' ⁸ "Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men." (Mar 7:6 NAS)

24. When the believer goes to the Father in *biblical/doctrinal prayer* he is oriented to God the Father's person, plan, and provisions. He is not there to play religious games in any effort to cajole God. The doctrinal believer:
- realizes that God the Father loves him unconditionally
 - realizes that God is immutable so He cannot change
 - realizes that God is faithful and will always be there
 - realizes that God is a God of grace so it does not depend upon your personal "performance"
 - realizes that God is sovereign and has authority over all things
 - realizes that God is omniscient and knows all things from billions of years in eternity past
 - realizes that God is sovereign, He has authority over all things
 - realizes that God is who He says He is
 - realizes these things because he is living in fellowship with God and is applying the Word of God

25. A look at magnificent promises of prayer:

John 14:13a "And whatever you ask in My name, that will I do"

John 15:16 "that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you.

John 16:23b "if you shall ask the Father for anything, He will give it to you in My name."

26. What about the unanswered prayer of 2 Corinthians 12:7-10?

2 Corinthians 12:7 And because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me-- to keep me from exalting myself! ⁸ Concerning this I entreated the Lord three times that it might depart from me. ⁹ And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰ Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

27. Inadequate solutions to the problem of “unanswered” prayer *with respect to these promises!*

- a. Deny that prayers ever goes unanswered. This view is that they are always answered in the affirmative (as per health wealth prosperity believers and throwing away glasses and canes).
- b. That these promises includes the answer of no. Thus a prayer that receives an answer of “no” is not really an unanswered prayer. God answered by saying “no.” However, Christ said that we should ask whatever we want and He would give it to us. There are certain prayers God will grant that are not under “no” that is against My general will.

28. The proper solution to understanding Christ's promise is that it must be qualified. All other attempts make His promises empty. It is not true simply and without qualification that you will receive whatever you ask in Jesus' name. The promise must be qualified in certain ways in accordance with the teaching of the rest of Scripture. If these biblical qualifiers are not met, one cannot claim the promise.

29. Qualification #1—no unconfessed sin in the life of the believer (OOF, -vol). This is the most basic reason that prayers of believers are not answered. Jesus' prayer naturally presupposes that the person praying is a Christian living in the fullness of fellowship with God and the power of the Holy Spirit. A Christian who is living in unconfessed sin or in the power of the flesh can have no confidence that his prayers will be answer, Psalm 66:18; 1 Pet 3:7. Jesus' promise assumes that the believer is abiding in Christ, growing in and living out His Word, walking in the light, filled with the Spirit, and honoring fellow believers. Only when the believer is living in the mandates of God will God answer his prayers.

30. Qualification #2—right motives. Many times prayers go unanswered because the motives are wrong. Too often, prayers are motivated by selfishness—a sort of “Gimme, gimme, gimme” self-centered attitude. While Jesus had promised, “Ask and it will be given to you (Matt. 7:7), James equally said “When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures” (James 4:3). Prayer that is totally self-centered does not fall under Jesus promise. Consider all of the prayers for “goods” of this earth that have absolutely nothing to do with the glory of God. Our motive in prayer should be to request things of God, not that our selfish desires might be satisfied, but that His name might be glorified.

31. Qualification #3—faith, “Amen,” you have to believe what God says! Jesus Himself made it clear that only a prayer of faith can be assured of an answer, Mark 11:24; James 1:6-8. If you are ridden by doubts, then what is the point of the prayer? We must pray in faith. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God, Rom. 10:17.

32. Qualification #4—persistence in prayer (prayer pursuit). All too often in our Laodicean age, people really do not care if they are answered or not. They give up and stop praying. Persistent prayer is important. Jesus would continue all night in prayer and wore out the disciples by having them pray with Him. Jesus was very involved in prayer. We are to pray without ceasing, 1 Thess. 5:17. Prayer is to be part of our daily life.

33. Qualification #5—prayer must be according to God’s will. A person could have no unconfessed sin in his life, have the right motives, be persistent, but if it is not God’s will, the prayer will not be answer. It may very well be that the problem is not due to some fault in us. God knows better. Our perspective is limited; this is not so with God. God’s will would include all of the previous qualifications, cf. 1 John 3:21-22, ‘obeying His commandments.’

a. **1 John 5:14-15**, And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that He hears us *in* whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

1) Thus, our prayers should always be tempered with the *attitude*: “if it by Thy will.” This is not some namby-pamby, Milquetoast ritual.

- (2) John says that our confidence is not that God will answer our prayers, but that He will answer our prayers if they are in accordance with His will.
- (3) The believer's degree of confidence that God will answer his prayers is proportional to his degree of confidence that they are (and in) His will.
- (4) The decisive vindication of this way of praying is that this is the way Jesus prayed in the Gethsemane.
- (5) To ask God's will is in itself an expression of humility and submission to God. It is to acknowledge that He knows better than we do, and that *we want His will even more than we want our request.*

- (6) Paul wanted to be healed, yes, but even more he wanted God's will for his life, 2 Cor. 12:9-10. Our attitude should be the same.
- (7) If we want our prayers to be answered, we should pray in accordance with God's will.
- (8) A good way to orient to God's will is to read the prayers of Paul in his epistles, cf. Eph. 3:14-20; Philip. 1:9-11; Col. 1:9-10. Are these the chief concerns in your prayer life?

(b) Romans 8:26-27. In the areas of God's will we also have the wonderful promise in Romans 8:26-27 of the interceding prayer ministry of the Holy Spirit.

- ✓ There are situations where we may not know what to pray for, but the Holy Spirit takes our prayers and translates them, as it were, into accordance with God's will before the throne of grace. With such a divine intercessor, we can pray boldly, even with our limited perspective, confident that the Holy Spirit is interceding according to the will of God.

34. We should follow the Lord and the apostle Paul in making God's will the priority in prayer. Paul boldly prayed for healing, but when he realized it was God's will for him to remain ill, he gladly accepted God's will for the glory of God.

35. It is clear from Jesus' promise that answered prayers ought to be the norm in the life of the spiritually healthy believer.

36. If answered prayer is not the norm then it is the responsibility of the believer to take inventory of the obstacles to answered prayer in his own life. Is there unconfessed sin that you rationalize away? Are you praying for selfish things? Are you not abiding in Christ? Are you seeking God's glory? Are you obeying His commandments? Do you really believe in the power of the Word of God and prayer? Do you really care whether He answers or not? Are you persistent in prayers? Do you want God's will more than your own?

37. IF you have a healthy spiritual life and are troubled by *certain* unanswered prayers, you need to trust God for His perfect will. God will give to you what His good and acceptable and perfect will decrees. You may not always get what you ask for, but God knows best what will serve to advance His perfect plan.

38. You can always trust God for His answers. Let us strive to lay hold of those grace promises whether that means getting rid of “stuff” in the way or accepting His will no matter what.

God's Unconditional Love for Judas, Mt 26:50

1. Christ calls Judas, “companion (ἑταῖρος)”! Matthew 26:50. We are accustomed to think of the betrayer of our Lord as kind of a monster, complete with horns who will be shunned even in Hell. However, remember when the Lord declared that one would betray Him, no one had a clue. It was Judas who said, “Lord, is it I?” No suspicion lighted on Judas. His corruption was unseen by all except for Jesus Christ. Judas grew darker and darker with each passing day--- unbeknownst to everyone but Jesus.
2. Jesus does not call him “friend.” The term companion is not as strong as “friend” (philos). However, it should have cut Judas to the core as to what he was about to do.

3. Mark the patience of Christ's love for Judas, "do what you have come for." What an attempt to reach Judas, to remind him of the nature of his sin. Many would have been convicted and shrunk from the deed. This is the last effort of Christ's personal longsuffering love and grace to Judas. The last effort of divine patience to win back even the traitor. Note the lack of agitation (or shock of disbelief) from Christ.

4. This love is the very love of God instantiated. Incarnated! He who has seen me has seen the Father, John 14:8-9. We see the loftiest, clearest, and authentic revelation of God Himself. If anyone could have been excluded from the love of God, it would have been Judas. If the heart of Christ was closed to anyone, it would have been to closed Judas. We see the truth here that the love of God is extended to us all, and cannot be made to turn away from us by any sins of ours. The universal love of God cannot be turned away. Further, it cannot coerce volition to accept God either. The love of God abides on every single person in the same way. Is there a worse man on earth at this moment? If there be, he, too, has as share in that love. All are objects of God's love, John 3:16. This love is not an aggregate love. He loves all because He loves each. He loved us with exceeding love while we were dead in trespasses, Rom. 5:10—and not because of anything in us. No matter how awful, God loves all because He loves each. God repays evil with good, scorn with love. God's love is mightier than all of our sins put together.

5. Though one cannot stop the love of God, one can reject that love. Here with Judas we have the mysterious and awful power of frustrating the counsel of God. A finite will can rear itself against the Infinite Will of the loving Maker and Benefactor: 'I will not!' God pleads with man constantly, but man can say, 'NO!' Man cannot cease to be the objects of His love, but he can refused to be the recipient of its most precious gifts.
6. All one has to do to be condemned to Hell is nothing, John 3:36. What did Judas in response to Christ's words to him? Nothing; it was enough. He merely held his peace—no more. He did not have to reject His Lord with wild cursing. All one has to do is be passive. Man need not clench his fists to reject God.
7. Judas will not be able to say, 'I did this in ignorance' like the Apostle Paul, 1 Tim. 1:13.
8. God always calls out to every man: **Isaiah 1:18** "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool." It is always about the grace of God.