

From The Desk of Pastor Henry Wallace



Wisdom Of The Week Are My Prayers Effective?

James 5:16

...The effectual (*effective*) fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth

Are my prayers effective? That's the all-important question each of us must ask. The writer James lays out for us here in James chapter 5 the answer that we must all prayerfully consider. The Scriptures says it is the **powerful** and **effective** prayer of a **righteous person** that brings the needed cure from God. Note the Scripture says **a righteous person**. Saints, here's where it **MUST** begin. A righteous person is a person who is living *in obedience to the Word Of God*. Let's you and I consider what the Psalmist says in **Psalm 66:18** **If I regard** (cherish) **iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me**. **Confession must precede any and all requests.**

The second truth that stands out in this text is the word **fervent**. This word **fervent** means *a strong, sincere, intense belief*. It literally means "*a boiling or passionate spirit*".

Listen to what Joseph Hall, a seventeen century saint, said about prayer; "*It is not the arithmetic of our prayers, how many they are; not the rhetoric of our prayers, how eloquent they be; nor the geometry of our prayers, how long they be; nor the music of our prayers, how sweet our voices may be; nor the logic of our prayers, how argumentative they may be; nor the methods of our prayers, how orderly they may be; nor even the divinity of our prayers, how good the doctrine may be, which God cares for; **Fervency of spirit is that which availeth much***". Right living and a strong, sincere, and intense belief in a God who is able, produces effective prayers.