

Jude 20 – “Praying in the Holy Spirit.”

PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT

“In” is the operative word. What does it mean to pray in the Spirit? I wondered that for a long time. My personal bias kept me from venturing into the subject. Finally, I decided to see what the New Testament had to say about it. For starters, consider this: We are in the Spirit. The Spirit is in us. The Spirit bears witness with our spirit. The Spirit helps us. Things of the Spirit are revealed to us by the Spirit. The Spirit reveals the things of God, and He searches the deep things of God. No one knows the things of God except the Spirit. We have received the Spirit. We have been made to drink of the Spirit. The spirit is in our hearts. We are led by the Spirit. We live in the Spirit. The Spirit indwells the inner man. We can receive a word of the Spirit. We have the supply of the Spirit. We have the fellowship of the Spirit. We are given the Spirit. We are sanctified by the Spirit. We know the Spirit, and we can be in the Spirit. The Spirit speaks seven times to the seven churches in revelation, and He gives the last invitation to salvation in the Bible. Doesn't it make sense that we can pray in the Spirit, and that we should pray in the Spirit? We are in the Spirit. The Spirit is in us. We are in the Father like Christ is in the Father, and the Father is in Christ. That is brought about through the presence of the Holy Spirit in us. Praying in the Spirit allows the Holy Spirit to speak to and through our human spirit. When we pray in the Spirit our senses are not in control, and perhaps not even used. The best time to pray in the Spirit is when you are already in the Spirit, like the Apostle John. He was given the Book of Revelation when He was in the Spirit. As you pray in the Spirit, allow the Spirit to speak to you in unspoken words, or impressions, or assurances, or some other move upon your consciousness (or unconsciousness). Prayer in the Spirit is an awareness that the Spirit is leading you, impressing you, telling you what to do, or how to do it, or when to do it, or all of that. It is the consciousness that the Spirit is working, and you are responding to Him. When you follow the prompting of the Spirit and pray, you may not need words. When you are praying in the Holy Spirit, words are least important. The awareness that the Spirit is present in your spirit while you are praying, doesn't require words. You may receive answers from the Spirit by His impressions when you pray in the Spirit. The important thing is to allow yourself to be in the Spirit. Meditation on God's Word can get you there when the Spirit is teaching you. It takes practice, but that's OK. Brother Lawrence wrote a book on “Practicing The Presence Of God.” So, practice the presence.