

GOD SEEKS INTERCESSORS



*And he saw that there was no man,
and wondered that there was no intercessor.
—Isaiah 59:16*

In Old Testament times, God had among His people intercessors to whose voices He had listened and given deliverance. In Isaiah 59, we read of a time of trouble when God sought for an intercessor but found none. And He wondered! Think of what that means—the amazement of God that there was no one who loved the people enough or who had enough faith in His power to deliver, that he would intercede on their behalf. If there had been an intercessor, God would have given deliverance; without an intercessor, His judgments came down. (See Ezekiel 22:30-31.)

Of what infinite importance is the place the intercessor holds in the kingdom of God! Is it not indeed a matter of wonder that God should give men such power, and yet there are so few who know what it is to take hold of His strength and to pray down His blessings on the world?

Let us try to realize this position. When God had in His Son worked out the new creation and Christ had taken His place on the throne, the work of the extension of His kingdom was given into the hands of men. All that Christ was to do in heaven was to be in fellowship with His people on earth. In His divine condescension, God has willed that the working of His Spirit will follow the prayers of His people. He waits for their intercession that shows the preparation of their hearts—where and how much of His Spirit they are ready to receive.

God rules the world and His church through the prayers of His people. God calls for intercessors: in His grace He has made His work dependent on them; He waits for them.

Our Father, open our eyes to see that You invite Your children to have a part in the extension of Your kingdom by their faithfulness in prayer and intercession. Give us such an insight into the glory of this holy calling, so that with our whole hearts we may yield ourselves to its blessed service. Amen.