

THE SCHOOL OF INTERCESSION



*Who in the days of his flesh,
when he had offered up prayers and supplications
with strong crying and tears...was heard in that he feared.*
—Hebrews 5:7

Christ, as the Head of the church, is Intercessor in heaven; we, as the members of His body, are partners with Him on earth. Let no one imagine that it cost Christ nothing to become an intercessor. He is our example because of the enormous price He paid. What do we read about Him? *"when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed....He shall see of the travail of his soul....Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great...because he hath poured out his soul unto death"* (Isa. 53:10-12). Notice the repeated expression in regard to the pouring out of His soul.

The pouring out of the soul is the divine meaning of intercession. Nothing less than this was needed if His sacrifice and prayer were to have power with God. This giving over of Himself to live and die so that He might save the perishing was a revelation of the spirit that has power to prevail with God.

If we as helpers and fellow laborers with the Lord Jesus are to share His power of intercession, we will need to have the travail of soul that He had, the same giving up of our life and its pleasures for the one supreme work of interceding for our fellowmen. Intercession must not be a passing interest; it must become an ever growing object of intense desire, for which we long and live above everything else. It is the life of consecration and self-sacrifice that will indeed give power for intercession.

The longer we study this blessed truth and think of what it means to exercise this power for the glory of God and the salvation of men, the deeper our conviction will become that it is worth giving up everything to take part with Christ in His work of intercession.

Blessed Lord Jesus, teach us how to unite with You in calling upon God for the souls You have bought. Let Your love fill us and all Your saints, so that we may learn to plead for the power of Your Holy Spirit to be made known. Amen.