

a.w. Tozer Audio Prayers - Part 8

by A.W. Tozer

The sermon emphasizes the importance of hearing God's voice above the noise of the world, being aware of the dangers of spiritual complacency, and cooperating with God in our spiritual journey to experience a spiritual revival.

Duration: 20:25

Scripture: Luke 9:23, Acts 2:1, Romans 12:2, James 4:7

Topics: "Spiritual Revival", "True Surrender"

Description

This sermon is a heartfelt prayer seeking God's power and guidance, emphasizing the need for true surrender to Jesus Christ, a call to turn away from worldly distractions and self-reliance, and a plea for a revival of New Testament spirituality. The speaker acknowledges the dangers and perils of the world, urging listeners to be vigilant and prayerful, and to seek a deeper relationship with God amidst the chaos and distractions of life.

Transcript

Now I'd like to have you offer, let me offer a word of prayer. Dear Lord Jesus, we're gathered to Thee. We're not gathered to men, no matter how good men may be.

We're gathered to Thee. We minister unto Thee. We trust in Thee.

O Christ, risen from the dead, alive at the Father's right hand forevermore, death hath no more dominion over Thee. God hath put all power in Thy hands and has made Thee head over all things. Exercise Thy great power tonight.

Take the words which Thou didst Thyself inspire, for Thou art the Word, and Thou didst inspire the Word. Make the Word to live tonight, the ancient Word that has outlasted empires and kingdoms and nations and peoples and is still shining in its glory tonight. We pray that Thou would make us worthy to hear Thee speak and help me to speak as from Thee.

Lord, for these who raise their hands, we would ask Thy blessing. Lord, whatever they need, give it to them. If they need what they don't want, make them want what they need.

And if they want what they don't need and shouldn't have, change their wants to fit their needs and give them by grace, O mighty God, what they need the most. Now we pray Thee send us out from here tonight

to a busy, dangerous world, with every breaking headline more perilous than the one before. O Lord, send us out, we pray Thee, into the place we call civilization, into society, with complete trust that these are God's words that can be trusted and that as we believe them, they will be fulfilled for us and in us and through us.

Amen. Oh, dear Lord, time is short and the hour is late and we have such little time to go. And religion has gotten organized now, Thy religion, Lord Jesus, so that anybody can do it, anybody.

We don't have to have our gifts anymore. The tragedy and the terror of it all, the Lord still, men build their Babylon's, call them by their name, but they go down and perish. Oh, we want our work tonight, for soon we shall be where the wicked cease from troubling in the toil worn our dress, and only what the Holy Ghost does will last.

We would yield our earthly vessels. We would bring our empty vessels. We would, if need be, come and ask Thee to begin to scrub the rust and the filth until our hearts are shining, gleaming, with positories for the Blessed Spirit.

God bless everybody that listened tonight. Now, make us all see this. Make us all understand this, Lord, how tragic it is that Peter will outlast and be cobblers in the kingdom of God and fool around and put patches on the roof and cough up the temple with sticks.

Oh, God, and it's everywhere men are doing it. We confess, Lord God, that we feel like being sick when we read the pages of the Sunday pages and some of them religious magazines. Adam's brain is busy trying to do God's work.

We wonder, Lord, if it isn't offering strange fire on the altar of God. We wonder if it won't bring judgment in that day. Oh, Lord, save us from offering strange fire.

Any fire we offer, we want to be off the altar, thy fire. Bless us now as we separate. Please don't let us eat our way through yard of pizza tonight and forget all about this.

Great God, we pray thee, give us gravity that boy in his early teens here tonight with exuberance and everything he'll do, make him brave and serious. And you think that I, sixteen-year-old handmaid, who yielded this house to the Holy Ghost and was the instrument in some places of the revival, we don't excuse our sixteen-year-olds who think they're coats in the past, you see. We don't excuse the parents who think that their children ought to be permitted to just play when actually, Lord God, the crisis is on, the world's on fire and the judgment is drawing near, and the coming of your Lord draws nigh.

So thou send us out brave and thoughtful to meditate on thy word. Give us, we pray thee, desire and determination and then push us on till we're pushed over the cliff in desperation. And then as a mother eagle stirs up her nest and then dies down and captures her young, thou wilt catch us and fill us and gift us.

And the work we do, though it may not be vast, will have eternity in its heart. Let us stand, please. O Lord Jesus, Lord Jesus, Thou knowest we live in a world where perils and dangers are upon every hand and life is short and time is fleeting and judgment is coming and Satan is busy and all the fiends are squaring themselves across the path for trying to prevent us from going ahead.

But we hear you calling from the mountain peak and we want to know thee and the power of thy resurrection and the fellowship of thy suffering be made conformable unto thy death. We want to know the beauty and wonder that is thee. We pray to thee with requested prayer, O Christ Jesus, Christ Jesus, Christ Jesus, Thou who didst come in olden times in the form of a dove and sat upon them till them aspire and Thou who didst come to Peter and to the Moravians and to the saints of New England, Thou who didst come, O Lord, and fought here and there in Borneo and Korea, O withhold not thy glory from us.

We cry, show us thy glory, Lord, show us thy glory and teach us how to go on. Now grant, we pray, that this may be a good week and if the devil makes it the worst week we've ever had, we'll understand it. We'll have a naked intent and determination and we'll calmly, quietly believe, even though we should be attacked, even though the darkness should peddle over us, we'll know it's the cloud of unknowing, it's the dark night of the soul precedes the bright morning of the heart.

And we won't be frightened. For we know thou didst go through the garden and through the cross and into the darkness and out of the darkness and into the tomb and out of the tomb and into the glory. So wilt thou lead these and lead us and lead this church.

And O, we pray, bring us to a place where soon we may be under grace, spiritually prepared for a mighty outpouring of the Holy Ghost. An outpouring that shall bring in reality that which everybody's talking about and nobody has. And we shall come back to New Testament spirituality, back to Book of Acts Christianity again.

And maybe out from us here there shall flow streams into the desert way and fire that shall touch churches and groups everywhere. Bless us as we wait and above all things show us thyself, thyself, Lord, and show us thy glory. Hide us in the rock as thou passest by and show us thy glory so that all the glory of this world shall appear as ashes after that wondrous sight.

This we ask in the holy name of Jesus. Now as we close I'm going to ask Brother Ray to sing us a little solo for us. Save us from empty words and fill every word with golden content.

Prepare every heart to receive the word and prepare the speakers to lay the emphases where they belong. Inspire, illumine, enlighten, and empower, we pray. May it be said, they could not resist the wisdom of the Spirit.

These we beg of thee to give us wisdom and spirit. Lord, thou knowest how much religious and many religious things there are to say. It's often for the next hundred years they'll not be run out.

So I have something to say to us now. Say it, Lord. Say it.

And may thy servants hear thee. Amen. First before we do, let's pray.

O God, we thank thee for the thing in which we hear a sound that is earthly. It's neither the cheap song of the world nor is it the fine classical song of the world. It is another world.

We hear it. It harmonizes with the priests and elders and living creatures and ransom them with palms in their hands, sandals, shoes, and things gathered of men who loved them and washed them in his own blood. So glad to hear this, Lord.

Know what it will be like, a little bit of it, at least. Thank thee for a most tender Christian. Thank thee for this church.

Thank thee for this crowd here this evening night. And, Lord, it isn't the largest church on the continent, but to us it is the most important. And we pray that thou grant us a night where we may go forth to let the day pass closely.

Some don't need it. Some are on their way. Some have long passed the necessity for any of my priests.

Younger ones are coming up. New ones are coming in. Many others by the scores are going to other parts of the country and other parts of the world and taking the instruction and the message with them there.

New ones are hearing. God grant we pray tonight that in utter humility and consciousness that it is not I and not man and not the voice of man but the voice of the Spirit, may we hear these people, Lord Jesus. Grant mercy to the universe, such this hot, noisy, junky city with its cacophonous brackets and its fears and its lusts and its deceptions and its lies and its demon possession.

Lord God, have mercy on this great concentration of evil that we've named Chicago. We thank thee thou hast sent us a number who haven't bowed the knee to Baal nor fixed his image and never will. Thank thee for them, Father.

Thank thee some of them are here tonight. Graciously help us that we may be in power and not in burden. Christ, we thank you.

Now the text says, take heed how you hear. And when the great God brings salvation to us, we let it ride on a voice. We let it ride on a sound.

Amen. Let's pray. Now, Father, we pray that thou help us.

Temptation will be to loaf around among the trees. But Lord, while we're loafing, Satan's working. While we're loafing, Khrushchev's busy.

And all of those sons of Belial are busy trying to destroy the church, destroy human liberty and dignity, take away everything good and decent from the world. And they're doing it while we sleep. Oh, Jesus, please make our beds hard and choke us up so we can't eat too much.

And help us that we might pray during these days. Not be parasites living off the preachers, but participators and partakers, sharing with them, not only in our giving, but in our praying and in our bearing of the load. We ask this in Jesus' precious name.

Amen. It has been, I've tried to figure out how many years since I've been here, but I do remember what happened the last time I was here. The day And they took the rationing off gasoline, and everybody on the camp ducked out to get a tank full.

That's been a long time ago, hasn't it? Our Father, we well know that spiritual things can't be reduced to formulas, even though we struggle so hard to do it. The impulse of faith, the sudden reckless daring of the soul, the initial leap after God, can do more for us than all the carefully laid-out sermons could ever do. But we've done all we can do.

We've appealed to the intelligence, made some explanations, tried to say in our racy, modern English what has been said with great and stately dignity in our Bibles. My God, now take this that's been spoken and apply it to our hearts. May we, one after the other, turn from Adam's unbelieving world with its self-confidence, its self-reliance, its arrogance, its pride, its mad pleasures, its love of wealth, its love of praise, its love of publicity, its inordinate love of clothing and of fine things and of rich things.

Turn us, we pray thee, from it all, not only in our hearts but in reality. And then turn us to Jesus Christ, thy Son. We need him, Lord.

We gave up the world and didn't have him. We'd be in a vacuum. God, quickly take us through that little vacuum and take us to Jesus Christ, who is the radiant source of everlasting life and peace and joy, world without end.

We ask it in Christ's name, amen. Cooperate with God in all this, let's pray. Father, we pray for these friends who ask us to pray.

Dear Father, we pray that thou through thy Son, Jesus Christ, will help every one of these that they might drive a stake down and say, as Israel said when she crossed the river, this is a marker I crossed here, something really happened. Oh, we pray that this decision made tonight may not be the careless decision, but that it may be a determination that's as big as life and as strong and deep as all their faith, that they will, they will seek to meet all the requirements, that they may in that day rise to that divine abode, that the sons of ignorant and light and night may dwell with the eternal light because of thine eternal love. Grant this.

Then for those who didn't, some who didn't but should have, oh, Father, keep upon us a sense of holiness, that we can't sin and excuse it, but that repentance will be as deep as our lives. This we ask in Christ's name. Amen.

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