

# 'Praying Till We Pray'

by A.W. Tozer

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of praying till we have actually prayed, rather than stopping prematurely, and encourages us to pray through even when we feel spiritually dull.*

**Topics:** "Sovereign Grace", "Eternal Life"

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## Description

Sir Robert Anderson preaches about the Gospel of the glory of the blessed God, emphasizing the importance of preaching grace in its pure form to fully display God's highest glory in sovereign grace. He delves into the concept that salvation is only through the blood of Christ and the necessity of understanding the change brought by Christ's death for the full apprehension of grace. The sermon explores God's judgments according to equity, the different standards of responsibility for Gentiles and Jews, and the transition from the era of darkness to the era of Christ's revelation. It culminates in the triumph of grace over sin through the death of Christ, highlighting the eternal life available through belief in Jesus Christ.

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## Transcript

Dr. Moody Stuart, a great praying man of a past generation, once drew up a set of rules to guide him in his prayers. Among these rules is this one: "Pray till you pray." The difference between praying till you quit and praying till you pray is illustrated by the American evangelist John Wesley Lee. He often likened a season of prayer to a church service, and insisted that many of us close the meeting before the service is over. He confessed that once he arose too soon from a prayer session and started down the street to take care of some pressing business. He had only gone a short distance when an inner voice reproached him. "Son," the voice seemed to say, "did you not pronounce the benediction before the meeting was ended?" He understood, and at once hurried back to the place of prayer where he tarried till the burden lifted and the blessing came down.

The habit of breaking off our prayers before we have truly prayed is as common as it is unfortunate. Often the last ten minutes may mean more to us than the first half hour, because we must spend a long time getting into the proper mood to pray effectively. We may need to struggle with our thoughts to draw them in from where they have been scattered through the multitude of distractions that result from the task of living in a disordered world.

Here, as elsewhere in spiritual matters, we must be sure to distinguish the ideal from the real. Ideally we should be living moment-by-moment in a state of such perfect union with God that no special preparation

is necessary. But actually there are few who can honestly say that this is their experience. Candor will compel most of us to admit that we often experience a struggle before we can escape from the emotional alienation and sense of unreality that sometimes settle over us as a sort of prevailing mood.

Whatever a dreamy idealism may say, we are forced to deal with things down on the level of practical reality. If when we come to prayer our hearts feel dull and unspiritual, we should not try to argue ourselves out of it. Rather, we should admit it frankly and pray our way

through. Some Christians smile at the thought of "praying through," but something of the same idea is found in the writings of practically every great praying saint from Daniel to the present day. We cannot afford to stop praying till we have actually prayed.

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/aw-tozer/praying-till-we-pray/>

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