

Thou Restrainest Prayer Before God.

by F.B. Meyer

The sermon emphasizes the importance of not restraining prayer, highlighting the consequences of neglecting private, social, and family prayer.

Scripture: Job 15:4, Psalm 127:1, Matthew 6:6, Acts 2:42, Ephesians 6:18, Colossians 4:2, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Hebrews 10:25, James 5:16, 1 Peter 4:7

Topics: "The Importance of Prayer", "Spiritual Discipline"

Description

F.B. Meyer emphasizes the critical importance of prayer in the life of a believer, highlighting how Job's friends mistakenly assumed his suffering was due to secret sin, while many Christians today similarly neglect private, social, and family prayer. He warns that restraining prayer leads to spiritual famine and a lack of connection with God, as believers often prioritize work for the Lord over personal communion with Him. Meyer calls for a return to dedicated prayer practices, urging individuals to create time for intercession and to gather with others in prayer, as well as to establish family worship as a cornerstone of home life.

Transcript

Thou restrainest prayer before God. Job xv. 4.

JOB'S friends were bent on discovering the cause of his sufferings in some secret failure and declension. This is why Eliphaz accused him so groundlessly. They did not know of those secret habits of intercession described in the first chapter. But this charge is eminently true of some professing Christians.

They restrain private prayer. ‑‑ The closet door is too seldom shut behind them, or it is kept shut for to brief a period. They do not give themselves time to get into the mid‑current of intercession and be borne forward by it whither it will. The voice of the Holy Spirit is barely able to assert itself amid the hubbub of voices within. They are so taken up with speaking of the Lord, or working for Him, that they slur over private audiences with Himself.

They restrain social prayer. ‑‑ Their minister never them in the gatherings for intercession on behalf of the work of the Church and the salvation of the lost. They forsake the assembling of themselves with the saints. Like Thomas, they are absent from the gathering in the upper room, and miss the smile of the Lord.

They restrain family prayer. Surely we ought to gather at least once a day around the family altar. Where Abraham pitched his tent he erected the altar. A prayerless home is apt to become a worldly and unhappy one. There is no such keystone to the arch of home life and home love, as the habit of family worship.

How foolish, how shortsighted, how sinful, it is to restrain prayer! What wonder that your soul is famished when you fail to feed it, or impoverished when you neglect intercourse with heaven!

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/fb-meyer/thou-restrainest-prayer-before-god/>

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