

#5: The Prayer of the Age Offered to God through the
Church, the Body of Christ, as a House of Prayer

1/4-10

OL Summary:

I. The prayer of the age is the prayer of the church as the Body of Christ, the prayer that exercises the authority of Christ as the ascended Lord and Head of the Body, for the fulfilling of God's economy:

A. The ascension of Christ indicates that the entire work of redemption has been completely accomplished:

① The ascension of Christ indicates that the lordship of Christ has been established.

② Christ has been exalted by God, established as the Lord of the universe, and made Head over all things to the church; all things are under His feet, and everything He has obtained and attained is being transmitted to the church, which is His Body.

B. Because the church is the Body of Christ, the position of the church is exactly the same as that of Christ; since the Body is one with the Head, the position of the Body is exactly the same as that of the Head.

C. The authority of the Body is the authority of the Head exercised by the Body; thus, the authority of the Body is the authority of the Head.]

D. The prayer of the age is not the prayer of individual believers but the prayer of the church as the Body of Christ:

① In this kind of prayer we do not beg the Lord to do something for us; instead, we claim what the Lord has obtained and attained; He is seated at God's right hand in the heavenlies, far above all rule, authority, power, lordship, and every name that is named.

② When we pray according to what the Lord had obtained in ascension, we may take the ground of His ascension and claim His lordship over the present situation in the world.

③ Because the Body is one with the Head in the heavens, the Body has the authority to bind or loose on the earth what has already been bound or loosed in the heavens.

E. To fully enter into this kind of prayer and be able to exercise the authority given by the Head to the Body, we need to realize that we are members of the Body, and we must live, act, and move in the Body.

II. The church, the Body of Christ, is a house of prayer:

A. In the church as the temple of God, a house of prayer, we pray for the fulfillment of God's desire, the carrying out of God's will, and the accomplishment of God's economy.

B. In the house of prayer we live and serve as a man of prayer, praying to the mysterious God in the divine and mystical realm.

C. In the church as the temple of God, a house of prayer, we pray according to God's desire and thought; such prayer is precious and weighty, and it will shake the gates of Hades and affect Satan.

D. The prayer that is pleasing to God is the prayer that asks for the accomplishment of God's will and for the

completion of God's work.

E. Our prayer in the house of prayer should be for the fulfillment of God's economy:

① The Holy Land, the holy city, and the holy temple are three crucial things regarding God's economy:

(a) Christ is our good land; Christ is our city, our kingdom; and Christ is the temple, God's dwelling place.

(b) Our prayers should be aimed at the Holy Land, the holy city, and the holy temple; this means that our prayers should be aimed at the interest of God, that is, at Christ and the church as God's interest on earth.

(c) Daniel prayed for the Holy Land, the holy city, and the holy temple by opening his windows toward Jerusalem.

② To pray properly, we must pray to God in the name of the Lord Jesus, aiming at God's interest for His economy; to pray in the name of Jesus is to pray for the interest of God on earth, which is Christ as God's portion to us, as God's kingdom, and as God's dwelling place.]

F. In His heavenly ministry Christ is interceding, ministering, and executing God's administration, and we need to be those who respond to Christ's activities in His heavenly ministry by our prayers in the church as the temple of God, a house of prayer:

① Through our prayer Christ, the Head, is given a way to carry out His administration through His Body; as the Head is working in heaven by interceding, ministering, and administrating, we, the Body, are working on earth by responding to the heavenly ministry of Christ and reflecting what He is doing.

② If we seek the things which are above and have one life and one living with Christ, we will be wholly occupied with the Lord's interest; our heart will be with Him in heaven, where He is interceding for the churches, supplying the saints, and administrating God's government.

G. The prayer in the church as a house of prayer is in the position of ascension, and with this position of prayer there is the authority of prayer; when we have the heavenly position and authority, our prayers become God's administration, the executing of God's will; this is the prevailing prayer of the church—the prayer of the age.

H. In the church as a house of prayer, we pray in an executing way, binding on earth what has been bound in heaven and loosing on earth what has been loosed in heaven; this is the prayer of the Body; we can have this kind of prayer only when we ask in "harmony".

I. In the church as a house of prayer, we may participate in Christ's interceding life, praying at the center of the divine administration.

J. The central subject and goal of prayer in the house of prayer are to prepare a glorious church for Christ, a church that will match Him and fulfill the desire of His heart.

K. The Lord's recovery is to build up Zion—the reality of the Body of Christ consummating in the New Jerusalem—and we reach Zion by praying in the church as a house of prayer.

* "] " is the separation between Tuesday and Thursday, which is the separation of CP.

CP1: The prayer of the age is the prayer of the church that exercises the authority standing in the position of ascension for the fulfilling of God's economy

OL1: The prayer of the age is the prayer of the church as the Body of Christ, the prayer that exercises the authority of Christ as the ascended Lord and Head of the Body, for the fulfilling of God's economy. Mark 11:17 ... "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations"...

OL2: The ascension of Christ indicates that the entire work of redemption has been completely accomplished. Eph. 1:19-21 And what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the operation of the might of His strength, 20 which He caused to operate in Christ in raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenlies, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and lordship and every name that is named not only in this age but also in that which is to come; 22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church. After the Lord ascended to the heavens, He sat down at the right hand of God...When someone sits down, it means that everything that he had to do has been finished and accomplished... The Lord has accomplished everything related to the work of redemption in a full way. **OL3:** Because the church is the Body of Christ, the position of the church is exactly the same as that of Christ; since the Body is one with the Head, the position of the Body is exactly the same as that of the Head. The lordship of Christ was established by the ascension of Christ...Ephesians 1:22 tells us that Christ was given to be Head over all things "to the church." Everything that the Lord has obtained and attained is not only for Himself but is also to the church. **OL4:** The authority of the Body is the authority of the Head exercised by the Body; thus, the authority of the Body is the authority of the Head. Although the Body has this authority, this authority is not merely objective but is very subjective...The Lord said, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and disciple all the nations" (Matt. 28:18b-19a).

Having received all authority, the Lord commanded us to go with this authority and preach the gospel...The Lord also told us clearly that He has given us the authority to overcome the power of the enemy...Christ as the Head has the authority, and as His Body, we automatically have this authority also.

Suppose, for example, that you become ill. If you have the vision of what the Lord has obtained and attained, when you are in this situation, you will pray, "Lord, You are the transcendent One. You have been exalted to the heaven of heavens. Lord, we are Your Body. We are sitting with You in the heavenlies. All things have been subjected under Your feet, and therefore all things are also under our feet. This little sickness is included in 'all things,' so this little sickness also must be under my feet. I am now transcendent with You." ...Nearly every time we become sick, we go to the Lord and beg, "Lord, heal me. Lord, be merciful to me. Lord,

be gracious to me." This is to pray like a beggar...We will simply claim, proclaim, and declare to the sickness, "Do not trouble me; you are under my feet!"... Whenever the devil hears this kind of prayer, he runs away.

Application: New ones and Youth/College students

I believe that new ones and young people are learning to pray—read the Word of God and to fellowship with the Lord as an intimate good friend. These are great things, so please continue to do so. This week we are going to go one step further and learn to pray the prayer of the age. The prayer of the age is beyond your natural understanding, so you should exercise your spirit and open your mind to enter into this truth.

Christ went through the redemptive death on the cross, resurrected, and ascended to the heavens. When the Lord Jesus ascended, He was formally installed as the Lord over all things. The name of the Lord far surpasses all names. This ascended Christ is the Head of the Church, the Body. Everything that the Lord has acquired and attained can be experienced by the Body.

With this vision, join with your vital partners in praying not for requesting prayers, but for prayers that bring all things under your feet. For example, when the atmosphere in a class, a club, or a department of a company is bad, and when there is discord and confusion, you shouldn't ask, "Lord Jesus, have mercy on me. I don't want to be in a place like this. Please help me." Instead, you should do a prayer that exercises the authority of the Head, "Lord Jesus, the source of this mess is Satan. Since God is light and we are children of light, we expose and cast out Satan's works of darkness with light. I do not agree with this situation. Satan, I will trample you under my feet!" In fact, Satan is afraid that you, a member of the church, will rise up and oppose him.

The testimony of a brother: "When I was studying my master's degree program at graduate school, first I was told to do a very difficult experiment using my hands. It was difficult to get nice results from the experiment. I had large hands and was not good at handling details, so I was troubled and I desperately carried out the experiment while calling in my heart, "Oh Lord Jesus, oh Lord Jesus, oh Lord Jesus." Marvelously enough, I was able to get nice results every time. Anxiety and awareness of weakness were subjected under my feet. And when I didn't know how to understand the results of the research and felt like I was smacking a wall and couldn't move forward, as I walked around the campus, I prayed, "Lord, I don't know how to understand and move forward. But You know. I can't remain in this state. I must break through by being one with You. Amen, Lord, I praise You." On one hand, I enjoyed the presence of the Lord, and on the other hand, I prayed based on His authority. Marvelously enough, the wall was later removed and I was able to understand the results of the experiment correctly. I did not fully understand that prayer at that time, but when I prayed by faith, I was able to rule with the Lord over the difficulties.

You should never say that this kind of prayer is too difficult and has nothing to do with you. It is Satan who is making you say that. You should declare "Satan, get behind me!" and learn the "prayer of the age" little by little. Amen!

CP2: Business person should trust the Lord, be released from anxieties and pray the prayer of the age boldly with faith

OL1: The prayer of the age is not the prayer of individual believers but the prayer of the church as the Body of Christ. 1 Cor. 12:27 Now you are the Body of Christ, and members individually. Matt. 16:19 I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of the heavens, and whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in the heavens, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in the heavens.

We must realize that this ground (of His ascension) is not for individuals. Rather, this ground is for the Body. Christ is the Head, and we are the Body. Today as the Body of Christ, we need to claim the ground of the ascension of Christ....we must take the ground of Christ's ascension and claim, "Lord, we are Your Body. We are in You. You are the Head and we are the Body. You are Head over all things to us as the Body; therefore, we claim all that You have obtained and all that You have attained." We simply need to claim this ground and tell the Lord that we do not agree with certain things that are happening on this earth.

OL2: Our prayer in the house of prayer should be for the fulfillment of God's economy. 1 Kings 8:48 ...And they pray to You toward their land that You have given to their fathers, the city that You have chosen, and the house that I have built for Your name. John 14:13-14 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.

On the one hand we pray for them, but on the other hand we pray for them because of God's interest. If in our prayer we aim at the one for whom we pray, this will bring in the enemy's attack. This is a spiritual strategy in the spiritual warfare.

We need to remember that prayer involves three parties: us, God, and Satan. Sometimes when we pray for a certain person, Satan comes to attack him, and his situation becomes worse. The reason for this is that our interest is in that person, not in God's economy. No matter for whom we are praying, we should aim our prayer at God's Christ, who is God's interest in His economy.

To pray properly, we must pray to God in the name of the Lord Jesus, aiming at God's interest for His economy. By the expression in the name of the Lord Jesus I do not mean any traditional form of prayer. To pray in the name of Jesus is to pray for the interest of God on earth.

Application to business person/graduate students
Matt. 6:30 ...you of little faith? 31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, With what shall we be clothed? 32 For all these things the Gentiles are anxiously seeking. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Business persons should do their duty at work, sweating for a living, but be careful not to forget to trust in the Lord and not to

worry about your income or your future. For you to pray the Prayer of the Age, you should learn to trust in the Lord as your Shepherd, for the needs of your living and your future, and not to worry about them. Otherwise, you will not be able to pray "the Prayer of the Age", which asks for Christ and the church first.

A brother's testimony: "I started working just before I turned 30, after serving for five years as a full-timer. Before I started working, and often after I started working, I renewed my consecration and said, "Lord Jesus, I will serve You while working as a young working saint. My main business is Christ and the church. My profession is a side job. I need to work diligently even if it is a side job, and at the same time I look up to the Lord and ask for His blessings. However, I seek You here and now. Please make my main job successful. The success of my life depends on the success of my main job. Even if I succeed in my side job, if I fail in my main job, my life is a failure. I pray, Lord, have mercy on me and make me a person who seeks Christ and the church first as my main job." The Lord heard this prayer. I came across many difficult situations in the company, but I can testify that because of this consecration, I was able to have the boldness to pray "the Prayer of Authority". The more business problems I had in my company, the more time I spent serving the Lord. Even when I was sad, even when I was betrayed by people, even when I was deceived by people, even when I was oppressed by the environment, I fervently prayed for my brothers and sisters and the gospel, and went out to visit them.

One time, just before the launch of a new product, there was a quality problem at a factory that we outsourced to. No one could solve the problem, but I, who was not in charge, went there and solved all the problems in about half a month. Another major problem occurred when we changed our logistics base. I was not in charge of logistics, but I volunteered to go there and solved the problem in about 10 days. Wherever I went, many problems were solved by me going. Whenever I solve these problems, I always exercised my authority and prayed by saying, 'Lord Jesus, I thank You that You are with me. The source of the chaos is always Satan. Satan, the devil, I am thoroughly opposed to you. Not only that, Satan, but I, a member of the Body of Christ, command you to get out of here! Get out of here!'

There were times when I became weak and failed, but I opened up to my brothers and sisters, fellowshiped with them, and had them pray for me and support me. And by renewing my consecration, and by maintaining a life of actually spending time in service, I was able to have the boldness to exercise authority. Praise the Lord!"

Do not think that the prayers of the age are too high and that you cannot pray in the present situation. This thinking comes from the attacks of Satan, who is afraid of you and deceives you. Doubts are in your mind, so simply turn to the spirit, believe the Word, and start praying the Prayer of the Age today. Joshua 1:7 Only be strong and very courageous, being certain to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you. ...that you may have success wherever you go.

CP3: The church on earth pray “the prayer of the age” in one accord to carry out God’s will in the heavens

OL1: In His heavenly ministry Christ is interceding, ministering, and executing God’s administration, and we need to be those who respond to Christ’s activities in His heavenly ministry by our prayers in the church as the temple of God, a house of prayer. [Col. 3:1](#) If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

OL2: The prayer in the church as a house of prayer is in the position of ascension, and with this position of prayer there is the authority of prayer; when we have the heavenly position and authority, our prayers become God’s administration, the executing of God’s will; this is the prevailing prayer of the church—the prayer of the age. [Eph. 1:22-23](#) And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church, which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

All prayers in ascension are prayers of authority. We know that prayer in ascension is a command to God. Our prayer is not begging but commanding.... In [Isaiah 45:11](#), God says, “...Ask Me about the things to come concerning My sons, and concerning the work of My hands, command Me.” Sometimes this commanding is a direct command to God, and sometimes it is an indirect command to the environment. Examples are: Moses standing on the shore of the Red Sea commanding the water to be divided, the Lord Jesus in the boat commanding the wind and the sea to be still, and the Lord commanding sickness to leave men. If you have learned to pray by standing in the realm of ascension, you can even command poverty to leave you.

OL3: In the church as a house of prayer, we pray in an executing way, binding on earth what has been bound in heaven and loosing on earth what has been loosed in heaven; this is the prayer of the Body; we can have this kind of prayer only when we ask “in harmony”. [Matt. 18:18-19](#) ...Whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in heaven. Again, truly I say to you that if two of you are in harmony on earth concerning any matter for which they ask, it will be done for them from My Father who is in the heavens.

God has a purpose to increase the number of the house of Israel so that the Israelites would increase like a flock. Those who do not know God will say, “If God wants to increase the number of the Israelites like a flock, He could go ahead and do it. Who could stop Him?” But [Ezekiel 36:37](#) says that God must be inquired of first before He will accomplish it for them. This is a clear principle: Even though God decides on a matter, He will not do it immediately. He would increase the house of Israel only after they inquired of Him. He wants the earth to control heaven.

Although the church has a free will, it submits this will

to God’s authority as if no other will existed. This allows God to do whatever He wants to do.

Application to the serving ones

The Gospel Song Meeting on December 20 was blessed, and the number of participants on the Lord’s day meeting exceeded 200 for the first time. Year End Blessing Meeting was blessed even more, and the number of participants on the Lord’s Day was 214. The serving ones did the following three things.

① Preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom to All People: In order to preach the gospel of the kingdom to all Hyogo citizens such as Kobe, the church actively preached the gospel, increased the number of people, served with the burden of spreading to neighboring cities. **② Interested in people using statistics:** To do this, we checked the weekly statistics by name list and contacted and shepherded those who had not come. [Luke 15:4](#) Which man of you, who has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? You are not God, so without statistics, you cannot objectively know if you are increasing or decreasing. According to the nature of the fallen man, 100 and 99 are the same, and even 90 may be the same. Look at the name list from statistics, have an interest in people, pray for people, and shepherd people. Also go out and preach the gospel. In December, three people were baptized, and all of them are attending the Lord’s Day meeting every week. **③ The church is to pray with one accord and act with one accord for the realization of God’s economy on earth:** We prayed with one accord, and carried out the gospel and shepherding with one accord, so that many six kinds of new ones would be released. The Father listened to our prayers in one accord and actions in one accord on this earth, and many people were released, and 214 people were able to attend the Lord’s Day meeting.

The key words of "The Prayer of the Age" are summarized as follows. **①** The prayer of authority standing in the position that the ascended Christ has reached and gained! Prayer that commands difficulty and puts it under the feet! **②** Prayers of the church, the Body (Prayer Meeting Prayers, Prayers with Vital Partners, etc.)! **③** Prayer for the fulfilling of God’s economy! **④** Prayer in response to Christ’s heavenly ministry! **⑤** Prayer that the earth rules the heavens! [Ezek.36:37](#) Thus says the Lord Jehovah, Moreover for this I will be inquired of by the house of Israel to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock. You should continue to train yourself to pray “the Prayer of the Age.” Furthermore, please teach the new ones to gradually carry out this prayer.

Prayer: “The church is a house of prayer, and I need to pray the Prayer of the Age in the Body, standing in the position of Christ’s ascension, and with authority, for the fulfillment of God’s Economy. God desires to increase the number of His house like a flock for His own purpose. However, God cannot do anything unless the church asks on earth. The church prays the ‘Prayer for Earth to Rule Heaven.’ I will preach the gospel of the kingdom with brothers and sisters in one accord.”