



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Devotion to Prayer ... By Billy

READ: COLOSSIANS 4: 2-6

- **T**he instruction of Paul regarding prayer, thanksgiving and witness is an important reminder to us. For some this will be new, for many of us it will be a timely reminder.
- Devotion to prayer is best defined by the word continuance.
- The early disciples continued in prayer as they waited for the coming of the Holy Spirit. (Acts.1:14)
- Paul exhorted the church at Ephesus to be on the alert with all perseverance in prayer. (Eph.6:18)
- Continued perseverance does not come easy to a distracted or disillusioned mind.
- There are disciplines needed just as there are in the continuance of physical and mental training. (resistance training and study)
- The first discipline is thanksgiving. Although this should flow spontaneously from our hearts, it is too often the case that we must stir up ourselves to remember the goodness of God.
- Secondly, we must cultivate a mind that is on the alert, just as Jesus told His disciples to watch and pray.
- **Unless we watch out for the devil's wiles, worldly influences and our own deceitful hearts** we will become an easy prey. (roaring lion)
- One of the common wiles of Satan is to discourage us with unsettling thoughts about **God's lack of intervention**.
- He is a liar, dealing mostly in half-truths. Yes God does not intervene according to our schedule but He always makes cosmos out of chaos ultimately.
- Paul reveals his valuation of prayer in v.3
- **If a door is to be opened for the Gospel then prayer is crucial. The One who declares... "Knock and it will be opened to you".. is the One to Whom we should pray.**

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