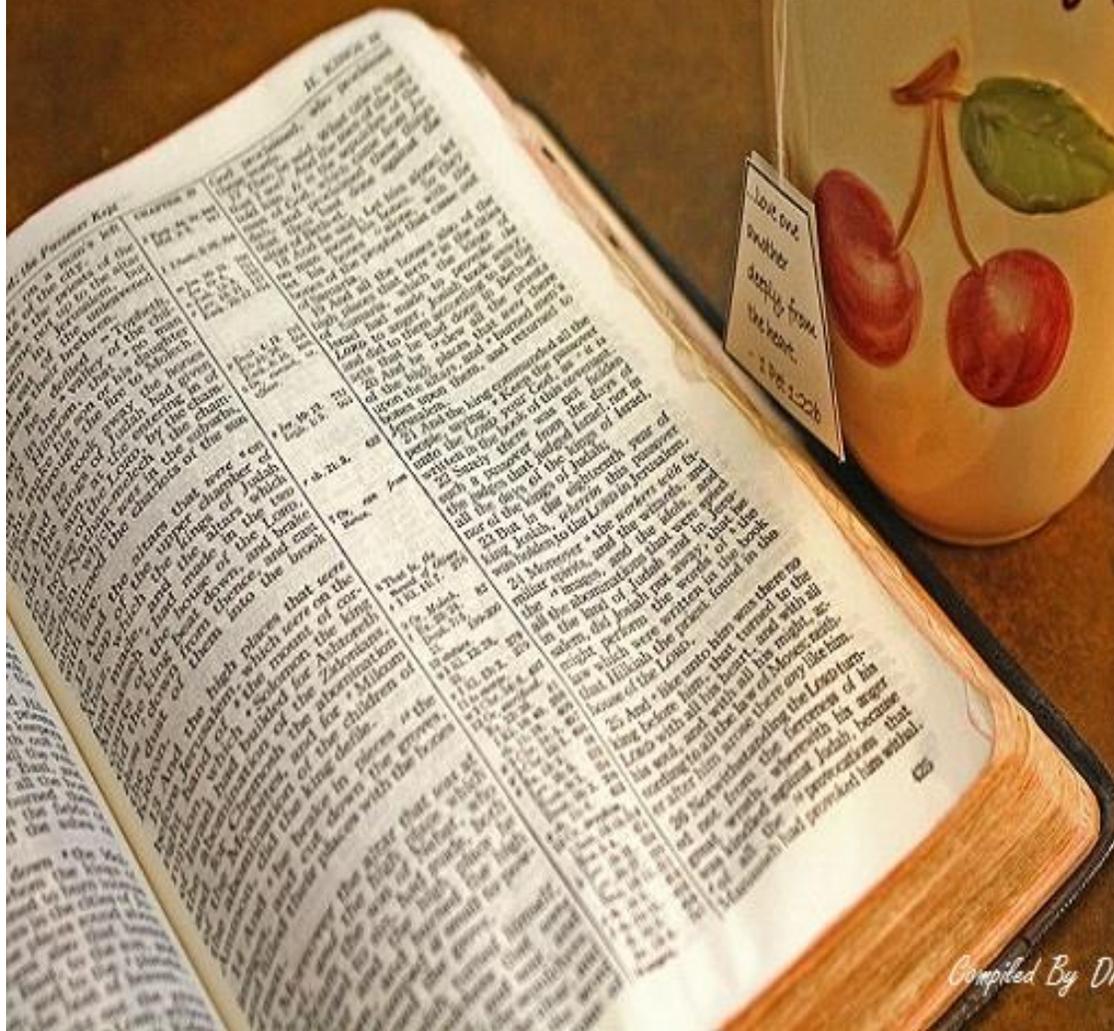


# Quiet Time Alone With God



Compiled By Dr. Harold Bollinger

## **Time alone with God**

### **Jesus spent time alone with God in prayer.**

And early in the morning, while it was still dark, He arose and went out and departed to a lonely place, and was praying there. (Mark 1:35)

Were the disciples impatient that Jesus prayed in solitude while so much ministry waited to be done? How would you have responded if you had been the one to find Jesus in prayer? It's easy to be so caught up with ministry that you neglect times of solitude, individual worship, and prayer. Perhaps you need to redesign your schedule to find time for earnest prayer.

It is vitally important to:

- (1) Seek the Lord before your busy schedule takes over your thoughts;
- (2) Withdraw from noise and demands so you can focus on God;
- (3) Take Jesus' attitude of regular communion with the Father;
- (4) Reflect on the priorities Jesus had for his life;
- (5) Determine to pray on a more regular basis, not just in times of crisis.

If prayer was important for Jesus, then it must be important for his followers

### **Jesus departed to the mountain to pray.**

And immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side to Bethsaida, while He Himself was sending the multitude away. And after bidding them farewell, he departed to the mountain to pray. (Mark 6:45-46)

### **Jesus asked his disciples to watch while he prayed.**

And they came to a place called Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, "Sit here until I have prayed." And He took with Him Peter and James and John, and began to be very distressed and troubled. And He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved to the point of death; remain here and keep watch." And He went a little beyond them, and fell to the ground, and began praying. (Mark 14:32-34)

### **Jesus went to an isolated place to Pray.**

And when day came, He departed to a lonely place; and the multitudes were searching for Him, and came to Him, and tried to keep Him from going away from them. (Luke 4:42)

### **Jesus often slipped away to the wilderness to pray.**

But He Himself would often slip away to the wilderness and pray. (Luke 5:16)

### **Jesus spent the whole night in prayer.**

And it was at this time that He went off to the mountain to pray, and He spent the whole night in prayer to God. (Luke 6:12)

Others who met God in an isolated place.

### **Abraham received God's covenant in an isolated place.**

#### **Genesis 15:18**

In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

God's covenant with Abraham was serious business. It represented an incredible promise from God. And a huge responsibility for Abram.

To confirm his promise, God gave Abram a sight of the smoking Firepot and a flaming torch.

The fire and the smoke suggest God's holiness, his zeal for righteousness and his judgment on all the nations.

### **Daniel was alone when God gave his many prophecies.**

Daniel 12:4-9

But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

[5] Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river.

[6] And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, how long shall it be to the end of these wonders?

[7] And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swear by him that liveth forever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.

[8] And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? [9] And he said, go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

Closing and sealing up the book meant that it was to be kept safe and preserved. This was to be done so that believers of all times could look back on God's work in history and find hope.

Daniel did not understand the exact meaning of the times and events in his vision. We can see events as they unfold, for we are in the end times.

## **Paul**

Paul was alone in Arabia when he wrote to the Romans. He was also alone when he wrote the epistles. Fourteen of the twenty-seven books in the New Testament have traditionally been attributed to Paul.

## **Peter**

Peter was on the rooftop when God spoke to him about Cornelius resulting with the gospel opening the door to the Gentiles.

### **Acts 10:9-16**

On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour: [10] and he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,

[11] And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth: [12] Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

[13] And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat. [14] But Peter said, not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean.

[15] And the voice spake unto him again the second time, what God hath cleansed, that call not thou common. [16] This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.

## John

John was alone on the island of Patmos when God gave him the book of Revelation.

### Rev. 1:4-5

John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;

[5] And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

Jesus told John to write to seven churches that knew and trusted him and had read his earlier letters. The letters were addressed so that they could be read and passed on in a systematic fashion, following the main Roman road clockwise around the province of Asia (now called Turkey).

## Moses

Moses was alone in the wilderness when God gave him the Ten Commandments.

Moses expected God to give him a message, as he hued two stones like unto the first.

Exodus 34:1-2

And the Lord said unto Moses, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first: and I will write upon these tables the words that were in the first

tables, which thou brakest. [2] And be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning unto Mount Sinai, and present thyself there to me in the top of the mount.

Moses fully expected God to give him something to put on the stones. When you are having a quiet time with God, you are fully expecting him to give you something.

### **An invitation is given to open your heart's door to Jesus**

#### **Rev. 3:20**

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

#### **To ask Jesus to come into your heart, please pray this Prayer:**

Dear Lord Jesus, I believe you are the Christ, the Son of the Living God. I ask you to forgive me of my sins and coming into my heart. I accept you as savior and will follow you as Lord. Amen.

#### **References:**

Holy Bible: King James Translation

Additional comments and charts are taken from: *Life Application Study Bible*. Illinois: Tyndale House 2007. Print

