

Pastor Ron Case
9/11/16

“Entreaty”

Abraham (Part 13)

“...The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.” (James 5:16)

Genuine Entreaty

Genesis 18:22-26 – (22) “So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. (23) Then Abraham drew near and said, ‘Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? (24) Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? (25) Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?’ (26) And the LORD said, ‘If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.’”

Humble Entreaty

Genesis 18:27-28 – (27) “Abraham answered and said, ‘Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. (28) Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?’ And he said, ‘I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.’”

Resolved Entreaty

Genesis 18:32-33 – (32) “Then he said, ‘Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.’ He answered, ‘For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.’ (33) And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.”

The Answer of the Lord

Genesis 19:27-29 – (27) “And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the LORD. (28) And he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the valley, and he looked and, behold, the smoke of the land went up like the smoke of a furnace. (29) So it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the valley, God remembered Abraham and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow when he overthrew the cities in which Lot had lived.”

(1) God is avidly listening to our Entreaties

“The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry.” (Psalm 34:15)

(2) The Entreaties of God’s Children will be answered

“And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.” (1 John 5:15)

(3) Pray to Cover the Sins of Others

“If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that.” (1 John 5:16)

Questions to Ponder:

(1) What impacted me most from this message?

(2) Am I entreating the Lord? (Matt. 6:6; Matt. 7:7-11)

(3) Have I underestimated my part in helping to bring people to repentance of sins? (John 20:23)