

# Sermon Handout

## Prayers of Supplication

### Philippians 4:4-7

#### I. St. Paul Urges the Christians to Pray

- a. Don't let anxiety rule you (persevere, v. 5)
- b. Pray petitions with gratitude *cf.* v. 4 "rejoice"
- c. Make your requests known to God
- d. Peace (confidence) is the result v. 7

#### II. Petition (supplication) in the New Testament

- a. 19 occurrences (Luke, Paul, James and Peter)
- b. In the Septuagint OT = always re: requests to God
- c. Key passages:
  - A. Zechariah & Anna Lk 1:13; 2:37
  - B. God's ears are open to it I Pet 3:12 *contra* Is 59:1-2
  - C. That Israel will turn to Jesus Rom 10:1
  - D. For effective evangelism Eph 6:18-20 (2x in v. 18)  
Note: "perseverance" *cf.* Phil 4:5
  - E. To be offered for all men, incl. civil leaders I Tim 2:1-3
  - F. To be offered for other believers II Cor 9:13-15 *cf.* Col 1:9-11
  - G. Strong prayers of Jesus and Christians Heb 5:7; Jas 5:16

#### III. The Prayer Life of Christians

- a. Praise Confession, Praise, Supplication, Thanksgiving
  - A. The liturgical service follows this pattern
  - B. All four must play a part in our personal prayers
- b. The promised results and their conditions
  - A. God hears I Pet 3:12  
Condition: our sins are confessed & forgiven.
  - B. God answers Jas 5:16-18; Jn 15:7-8  
Condition: we are remaining in Christ.
  - C. God grants us peace Rom 5:1; Phil 4:7  
Condition: we persevere and rest in Christ.