



# Your Such A Time As This

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Eternally Speaking Now

*"Yet who knows whether you have come to the **kingdom**  
**for such a time as this?**" Esther 4:14b*

You may recall my sharing how God urged me at the start of 2020 to get up [in the middle of the night to pray](#). Every night. No matter what. After fumbling through doubts and questions and wrestlings, by February of this year, I got into the habit of arising from sleep to pray almost every night.

One evening (or shall I say extremely early morning), during what has now become my **treasured time** with Jesus, a troubled teen came to memory. The Lord nudged me to pray for him. I was tired and didn't know

how to pray, so I asked His Spirit to intercede for him through me, according to God's will.

*"Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." Romans 8:26*

As I prayed, something super special happened.

In my mind, I discerned a bird's eye view of the **world**. My vision then panned out farther and farther above the **earth**, as if to peer down from the **heavenlies**. The planet looked small, yet not insignificant. Red dots began to appear all across the **globe**, representing believers who were praying **at that very moment** alongside me.

Suddenly I received a deeper awareness of the weightiness of one person's prayers. I was filled with the assurance **that** right then, at 2:30 in the morning Central Standard Time, in a little town called Fairmount, I was likely the only one in the whole entire **world** praying for **that** one boy. Out of more than 7 billion people in **existence**, it was my **time** to play a key role in the life of one lost child. *God cares **that** much.*

Did I immediately see an answer to prayer?  
No, I haven't seen **that** boy for a long time.  
Does **that** mean my prayers weren't answered? No.  
Does it even matter if they're answered? No, it really doesn't.  
Should I require a guaranteed answer in order to pray? Absolutely not. **We pray by faith and believe God's Word. Period.**

*"But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."  
Hebrews 11:6*

People of God, if you haven't already radically amped up your personal prayer life this year, **now is the time**. *Right now*. Please do not delay.

If Jesus calls us to pray for others, then He's obviously convinced **that** prayer works. Maybe it's **time** we choose by faith to be persuaded as well.

If you pray only over meals, then add prayer during your shower.  
If you're doing **that** already, then add prayer while you cook.  
If that's your regular routine, then start praying in the car as well.  
If you already do all of **that**, then pray every time you see the clock.  
And if you're already praying **that** often, set your sights on 'ceaseless prayer.' Why not? After all, it's the Lord's will.

*"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*

*1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

This isn't about keeping a law or following a rule.  
It isn't about shoulds and should-nots.  
It's about communing with God our Creator, partnering with His will.  
It's about necessity, about living and thriving at **such a time as this**.

In the **days** of Esther the Queen, no one was allowed to address King Ahasuerus without first being summoned. The penalty for doing so without invitation was death-- unless the **king** chose to extend his **golden scepter** to the one who approached him.

Esther was informed by her uncle Mordecai of a plot to annihilate the Jews. Mordecai pleaded with Esther to appeal to the **king**, in hopes to thwart **this** scheme. Esther then reminded Mordecai of the law that prohibited her from unsolicited visits to the **king**. **This** was Mordecai's response:

*"Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king's palace any more than all the other Jews.*

***For if you remain completely silent at this time,** relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish.*

*Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom **for such a time as this?**" Esther 4:13-14*

*Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai:*

*"Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day.*

*My maids and I will fast likewise.*

*And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; **and if I perish, I perish!**" 15-17*

While the entire Jewish race is not endangered at **this** instant **today**, we can still learn a sobering lesson (or two) from the dramatic parallel between **this** account in history and our current culture. To me, the most critical and **timely** of those lessons is **this**:

There's a **window of time** during which we're to pray as we're prompted. If we don't pray at **that minute**, it's possible God will move someone else to intercede, but the consequences of ignoring the Holy Spirit's call may harm us or leave us with negative consequences.

Who knows? Maybe your entire Christian life has been created and designed for the **very moment** when you stop and pray for **this situation** or **that person**."

And the best news of all? Our **King**, who is **Jesus**, has brought **His kingdom** to us, and He's constantly beckoning us to pray. You have a standing invitation, and He always welcomes you. It's never against His law, and His **golden scepter** is extended at **all times**, at **every hour**.

## CHALLENGE

I'll be honest, when God first told me to habitually pray in the night watches, I thought I would, in a sense, perish. Would I be able to fall asleep again after prayer? Would I disrupt my family's sleep? Would **this** cause long-term health problems or a loss of daytime energy? Where would I pray?

The unknowns were many, but the *opposite* of perishing has occurred. I'd already learned a lot through years of living with the goal of "praying without ceasing," but the past 9 months of mid-night prayer have wholly changed me. **For the better**. Yes, it's been a sacrifice, and I've had to "die to self" and surrender more to the Lord's will, but it's been **completely worth it**.

As we do what our **King** has commanded-- boldly and confidently approach His throne of grace **at an hour** that doesn't make sense-- He consistently offers the **golden scepter** and yet again embraces us in deeper fellowship with Him, widened trust in Him, and greater appreciation for prayer and faith...all the while, moving mountains and accomplishing things only possible through prayer. What an amazing collaboration between **God and His children**.

*"For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:15-16*

The lost youth need us. Our neighbors need us. The fellow Christian needs us. The **world** needs us. Pray (and consider fasting) like never before, for at **that moment**, as you intercede for others, it may indeed be *your* **such a time as this**.

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