

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 7-4-10 PM NOTES  
"THE PRAYER AMERICA NEEDS"  
EXODUS 32, 33  
(Non-Series Message)

"While the people of America reject the God of Scripture as their sovereign, they still claim Him as their servant."

—John MacArthur

**Psalms 115:3 (NKJV)** "But our God *is* in heaven; He does whatever He pleases."

"When He is about to bestow some great blessing on His church, it is often His manner, in the first place, so to order things in His providence, as to show His church their need of it, and to bring them into distress for want of it, and so put them upon crying earnestly to Him for it."

—Jonathan Edwards

I. A Prayer for the Sanctity of God's Reputation (32:10-14)

**Numbers 14:13-16 (NKJV)** "<sup>13</sup> And Moses said to the Lord: 'Then the Egyptians will hear *it*, for by Your might You brought these people up from among them, <sup>14</sup> and they will tell *it* to the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that You, Lord, *are* among these people; that You, Lord, are seen face to face and Your cloud stands above them, and You go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night. <sup>15</sup> Now *if* You kill these people as one man, then the nations which have heard of Your fame will speak, saying, <sup>16</sup> "Because the Lord was not able to bring this people to the land which He swore to give them, therefore He killed them in the wilderness."'"

**Joshua 7:9 (NKJV)** "For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear *it*, and surround us, and cut off our name from the earth. Then what will You do **for Your great name?**'"

**Psalms 23:3 (NKJV)** "He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness **for His name's sake.**"

**Joel 2:17 (NKJV)** "Let the priests, who minister to the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar; let them say, 'Spare Your people, O Lord, and do not give Your heritage to reproach, that the nations should rule over them.' Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where *is* their God?'"

**2 Samuel 12:14 (NKJV)** "However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also *who is* born to you shall surely die."

**James 1:17b (NKJV)** "...with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning."

II. A Prayer of Selfless Intercession (32:30-32)

**1 Timothy 2:1 (NKJV)** "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men."

"Intercession is, by nature, the exercise by which an individual positions himself between two parties—one with a need and the other with the answer—and seeks to bring the two together. It is a matter of reaching out to take the hand of the one with the problem and reaching up to take the hand of the one with the provision and being willing to sacrifice whatever is necessary so that they meet."

—Tom Elliff

**Romans 9:1-3 (NKJV)** “<sup>1</sup>I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, <sup>2</sup>that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. <sup>3</sup>For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh.”

**Ezekiel 22:30 (NKJV)** “So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.”

III. A Prayer That Seeks God’s Presence (33:13-17)

A. God’s Essential Presence

**Psalms 139:7 (NKJV)** “Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?”

B. God’s Manifest Presence

“...in 1735, the town seemed full of the presence of God: it never was so full of love, nor of joy, and yet so full of distress as it was then. There were remarkable tokens of God’s presence in almost every house.”

—Jonathan Edwards

IV. A Prayer to See God’s Glory (33:18)