

CAMELS AND CHRISTIANS RELEASE THEIR BURDENS ON THEIR KNEES

BY KEITH GREER

"For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; but the face of the LORD is against those who do evil." {1 Peter 3:12}

Watching a program discussing habits of different animals, I remembered seeing camels bend down to relieve themselves of their burdens. This brought to mind the many times I've been brought to my knees in prayer seeking God's help to lighten and remove the burdens of my life. God well understood how "heavy" life's burdens could become at times and made provisions to help ease that burden. Thankfully, He has always been there to listen.

Love and concern. *"Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." {1 Peter 5:6-8}* Do you suppose that God ever feels disappointed in us? Every good thing we have in life comes down from His bountiful hand {*James 1:17*}. Have you ever thought about all the blessings He showers upon us as we live our lives? How can we, as sinful people ever be worthy of such love and concern? Thankfully, we will never receive what we deserve from God. We deserve death {*Romans 6:23*}. Even if we obey every one of His commands, we still will not merit eternal life with Him in heaven {*Luke 17:10*}.

We serve an awesome God! How can one fathom His eagerness to forgive those who sin against Him? *"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." {2 Peter 3:9}* God has promised that if we confess our sins, He will forgive us {*1 John 1:7-9*}.

So many things in this world can discourage us and cause us to lose sight of the power in prayer. One of Satan's greatest weapons is keeping God's children so busy—no time to pray. Now I don't mean with evil things, just everyday exercises we do daily on this earth. Can you remember the last time you were on your knees seeking God's comfort, mercy, and help? We're fortunate to have a longsuffering and patient Father in heaven! Christians must be smarter than their adversary and not allow him an advantage of robbing us of seeking God through our prayers. Burdens can be lifted at the throne of God! ***