

QUESTION: Do we pray directly to God, or to Jesus? In what situations?

ANSWER: Jesus said we are to **ASK THE FATHER** in the NAME OF JESUS. God the Father answers our prayers and meets our needs IN Christ Jesus and BY Christ Jesus. I believe this is the correct way to make formal petitions, but **we may TALK to Jesus** or the Holy Spirit **at any time**. Also, do not confuse PRAYER to God with SPIRITUAL WARFARE against Satan. We **have the RIGHT and AUTHORITY to USE the NAME OF JESUS** and the word of God (the "sword of the Spirit") at ALL TIMES in spiritual battle with the enemy, and to CLAIM THE PROMISES of God for our protection IN THE NAME OF JESUS (see Proverbs 18:10, Psalm 91).

- **Matt. 6:9-13** "In THIS MANNER, therefore, PRAY: **OUR FATHER** in heaven....."
- **John 16:23-24, 26-27** "And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you **ASK THE FATHER in MY NAME** He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing IN MY NAME. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full." (26-27) "In that day you will ask in My name, and I do NOT say to you that I shall pray the Father for you; for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God."
- **Philippians 4:6-7** "Be ANXIOUS for nothing, but in everything **by prayer and supplication** WITH THANKSGIVING, **let your REQUESTS BE MADE KNOWN TO GOD**. And the PEACE OF GOD, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds **in Christ Jesus**."
- **Philippians 4:19** "But **my GOD** SHALL SUPPLY ALL YOUR NEEDS according to His riches in glory **by Christ Jesus**."