

“I am the First and the Last”

(The before and the after) —Rev.1:11

“Before Abraham was, I am”—John 8:58 “He is before all things”—Colossians 1:17 “From everlasting to everlasting, thou art God”—Psalm 90:2.

The great eternal triune God, maker of the universe, is everywhere present. Wherever we go in His will, He is already there waiting for us. The Psalmist said “whither shall I go from thy spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence?” (Ps. 139:7) He leads the way (John 10:3, 4); He knows what we need before we ask Him (Matt. 6:8). “The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to shew Himself strong in behalf of those whose heart is perfect toward Him” (2 Chr. 16:9). Perhaps you have asked, “When will God answer my prayers? Will He come through for me?” Yes, He will and soon! If you have been seeking the Lord’s will with agonizing and travailing prayer, He is ready to supply miracles of answered prayer. He said, “Before they call, I will answer and while they are yet speaking, I will hear” (Isa. 65:24). Before we can speak the words, grace and love are already flowing from heaven.

Weary pilgrims and earnest prayer warriors be encouraged! He hears you before you call and He answers! “Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child . . . for as soon as Zion travailed she brought forth her children” (Isa. 66:7, 8). God is anxious to answer prayer, especially the agonizing and travailing intercession of His people. The effectual fervent prayers of His righteous servants are heard at once! Before the pain of travail begins, God commands life! Death and hell retreat! Souls are drawn to repentance and revival is on the way!

God has a plan for each of our lives. He designed this plan even before we were born. “Before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations (Jer. 1:5). You and I have a calling to fulfill. Our purpose and our destiny are shaped by finding and doing God’s will.

God hears before we ask. He knows our hearts, but He wants us to ask before we act. Before we face each day, He wants us to spend time with Him. Before we work, play, eat or sleep, He wants us to acknowledge Him and ask for His guidance. Before we make any plans, He wants us to stop and listen for His voice to find His will and do it. Remember, “Before honor is humility” (Pro. 18:12). If we submit our plans, our actions and our lives to God’s will before we make our own plans, then our “afters” will be the wonderful and miraculous results of doing God’s Will. But, if we refuse to seek God before and insist on our own plans; hurtful consequences will follow after. “Pride goeth before a fall” (Pro. 16:18). Let us all walk with God so we can share in the joyous fellowship of having done the will of God! May you be blessed of the Lord!