

# BECAUSE NOAH PRAYED

Title: *The REAL Big Bang*, Pt 10

Series: Gaming

May 5-6, 2018 ser#3730 Sat SunE SunL

## I. POINT OF INTRIGUE

**A. GCCC's corporation name is Prayer Ministries, Incorporated.** The name was selected because PRAYER should be the foundation for all that we do as disciples of Christ, and the foundation for decision making by its church leadership. There is NO substitute for prayer. We have no better example than our Lord Jesus.

Today, we continue our study of **Genesis**, entering into a new series entitled "Gaming," looking at *Chapter 8*.

**B. Before we look at our text, I thought I'd share a few light moments relational to children and prayer.**

1. A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?" "I wouldn't know what to say," the little girl replied. "Just say what you hear Mommy say," the wife answered. / / The daughter bowed her head and said, "LORD, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"

2. I had been teaching my three-year old daughter the Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime. She would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo.

I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer, when she said, "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from E-mail."

### C. Let's pray.

## II. OUR TEXT

### *Genesis 8:20-22*

**20** Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. **21** The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in His heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood.

**WHY "FROM CHILDHOOD?"** Because since the fall, every human being is born with a "fallen/sinful" nature. If indeed man is intrinsically good we should by now have perfected ourselves. After all, we've been on earth for over six thousand years! But we are not intrinsically good; we are fundamentally evil. Hence, the promised messiah introduced to us in *Genesis 3*, unveiled throughout the Old Testament, and revealed in His coming in the New.

And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done. **22** "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

**A. Upon reading these verses, a logical question to ask is: “Where is Noah’s prayer found in those verses?”** Is that not the title of today’s sermon, “Because Noah Prayed?”

It is found in *verse 21*:

The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in His heart  
... .

In *Psalms 141:2* the Psalmist says,

May my prayer be counted as incense before You; The lifting up of my hands as the evening offering.

In *Revelation 8: 3- 4* we see the prayers of the saints mixed with the incense from the altar rising to God.

**3** Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all God’s people, on the golden altar in front of the throne. **4** The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God’s people, went up before God from the angel’s hand.

**B. Just as the prayers of the saints will ascend to the One and only true God in Heaven as a pleasing aroma during the Great Tribulation, and as Noah’s prayer after the flood, so do ours today.**

The apostle Paul writes this to the saints at Corinth:

“Those who are saved are not perishing; they are a pleasing aroma to God.” *2 Corinthians 2:15*

That’s why we can boldly proclaim, *“I was born with value and purpose. My life has promise and potential as it unfolds in accordance to God’s eternal plan.”*

Because, every saint is a “pleasing aroma” to God. It’s not because in ourselves we are righteous, but because Christ has made us righteous. And the Church said, “Hallelujah.”

**C. With that in mind, I’d like to introduce to you the official prayer ministries of GCCC.** I use the word “official” because there are many prayer ministries other than these, for which we are all grateful. **e.g.:** In a sense, every COF is a prayer ministry.

***ILLUSTRATION:*** I know that in the COF to which Sheryl and I belong, one of the most precious times of our gathering is when we pray for one another. Not only is it a sweet aroma to God, it is to each of us as well.

### **III. GCCC’S PRAYER MINISTRIES**

#### **(VIDEO) Tuesday Prayer & Fast – Darlene Frye**

Origin: The Pastoral Team. Pitman Masonic Club Building. Originated when looking to purchase a property we could call our own.

Purpose: To fast one meal on Tuesday and pray for the weekly finances of the Church.

People Participating: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **(VIDEO) 200 Sacred Place – PB**

Origin: PB in the late 80s or early 90s while we were meeting in the Broadway Theatre

Purpose: To take 5 minutes on a Saturday, away from the hustle and bustle of life, to pray for the weekend services at GCCC.

People Participating: \_\_\_\_\_

**(VIDEO) Early Morning Intercession – Ron Raively**

Origin: Different Church Members. Broadway Theatre. Met in the Seneca Ave Garage/Office.

Purpose: To pray for our nation and one another.

People Participating: \_\_\_\_\_

**TIME OF WORSHIP IS SONG & INTERCESSION**

**(VIDEO) Prayer Hotline – Jason Clendenen**

Origin: The Congregation. Broadway Theatre under the direction of the late Mary H. Sofia, PB's mother.

Purpose: Emergency prayer chain; get as many people as possible to pray for and during an emergency.

People Participating: \_\_\_\_\_

**(VIDEO) Aaron – Hur – George & Bonnie Wilson**

Origin: Dottie Israel-Ackerman when we entered the new building on Chapel Hts Rd.

Purpose: To say a short prayer for PB, daily.

People Participating: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS BY PB**—after this video.

**(VIDEO) Boiler Room – Rose & Bob Yerka**

Origin: PB – Chapel Hts Building. C. H. Spurgeon was showing guests the great Metropolitan Tabernacle. Underneath the pulpit was a room

where people prayed for the service, often during the service; he told them “It’s MT’s boiler room.”

Purpose: To pray for the Worship service about to begin or while it is going on.

People Participating: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS BY PB** after this video saying something about our newer, and more recently added, prayer ministries.

**(VIDEO) Military Prayer – Kathie Oswald**

Origin: John & Lisa Bennett. Chapel Hts Property

Purpose: To pray for those GCCC members and their families who are in the military.

People Participating: \_\_\_\_\_

**(VIDEO) Hearts & Minds – Denise Berg**

Origin: Denise Berg. Chapel Hts Rd.

Purpose: To gather those who have family members who are mentally and/or emotionally challenged.

People Participating: \_\_\_\_\_

**(LIVE MENTION BY PB) POTS – Everyone**

Origin: Out of a sermon by PB. Chapel Hts Road

Purpose: To say a short spontaneous pray, on the spot, when someone shares a burden.

People Participating: \_\_\_\_\_

**TIME OF WORSHIP IS SONG LEADING US TO  
THE LORD’S TABLE**

## V. INVITATION (TO BE GIVEN DURING HOLY COMMUNION)

If you recall, *2 Corinthians 2:15* tells us, “Those who are saved are not perishing; they are a pleasing aroma to God.” The question of the hour is: *Are you saved?* Here’s how:

**Admit**— your sins have separated you from God. (*Psa 14:1-3; Rom 3: 23*); **Believe** – that God did something about your sins through Jesus Christ. (The final Pascal Lamb/Messiah.) (*Lev 17:10; Heb 9: 19-22*); **Commit** – yourself to His righteous by confessing Jesus as Lord and Savior. (*Isa 53:5; Col 1:22*); **Do it today!** (*Isa 49:8; 2 Cor 6:2*).

Father in Heaven, I’m sorry for the things I’ve done that are wrong: I am a sinner; forgive me. Thank You for loving me and sending your Son, Jesus, to pay the penalty for my sin. Holy Spirit, come into my heart; Jesus be my Lord and Savior. I give You my life. Amen!

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