The Olectret of INTERCESSION

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Andrew MURRAY



Publisher's note:

This new edition from Whitaker House has been updated for the modern reader. Words, expressions, and sentence structure have been revised for clarity and readability.

> All Scripture quotations are from the King James Version (KJV) of the Hly Bible.

THE SECRET OF INTERCESSION

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Introduction

This little book has been prepared with the view of rousing Christians to some right sense of the solemn duty, high privilege, and wonderful power of intercession. It seeks to point out what a place intercession has in God's plan for the extension of His kingdom. It is also for the strengthening of the life of His children so that they may receive from Him the heavenly blessings He has to bestow and then go forth to impart them to the world.

The Dutch original has been found helpful in encouraging Christians to realize their high calling and in helping them to take their place among the Lord's remembrancers who call upon Him day and night. This translation is issued with the hope and prayer that it may be used in Bible classes and prayer meetings to foster that spirit of devotion and prayer that is so essential to the Christian life.

-Andrew Murray

Day 1

Intercession

Pray one for another.—James 5:16

What a mystery of glory there is in prayer! On the one hand we see God, in His holiness, love, and power, waiting and longing to bless man. On the other hand there is sinful man, a worm of the dust, bringing down from God by prayer the very life and love of heaven to dwell in his heart.

But the glory of intercession is so much greater—when a man is bold and asks from God what he desires for others. He seeks to bring down on one soul, or it may be on hundreds or thousands, the power of the eternal life with all its blessings.

Intercession! Would not one say that this is the very holiest exercise of our boldness as God's children? It is the highest privilege and enjoyment connected to our communion with God. It

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is the power of being used by God as instruments for His great work of making men His habitation and showing forth His glory.

Would not one think that the church would count intercession as one of the chief means of grace? The church should seek above everything to cultivate in God's children the power of an unceasing prayerfulness on behalf of the perishing world.

One would expect believers, who have to some extent been brought into the secret, to feel what strength there is in unity and what assurance there is that God will certainly avenge His own elect who cry day and night to Him. It is when Christians cease from looking for help in external union and aim at being bound together to the throne of God by an unceasing devotion to Jesus Christ, and an unceasing continuance in supplication for the power of God's Spirit, that the church will put on her beautiful garments and put on her strength, too, and overcome the world

Our gracious Father, hear our prayer and teach Your church, and teach each of us, what is the glory, what is the blessing, what is the all-prevailing power of intercession. Give us, we pray You, the vision of what intercession means to You, as essential for carrying out Your blessed purpose—what it means to ourselves

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as the exercise of our royal priesthood, and what it will mean to Your church and to perishing men, in the bringing down of the Spirit in power—for Jesus' sake. Amen.

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How are those who pray for others blessed themselves?