

Romans 8: 26 - 27



26 In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words;

27 and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to *the will of God*.



26 In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words;

“In the same way” – refers back to what has been said before

the Spirit also helps our weakness

the Spirit also helps (or joins in to help) our weakness



present, indicative, active form

joins in to help - *synantilambanomai* - usage notes: signifies "to take hold with at the side for assistance" (*syn*, "with," and "to help"); hence, "to take a share in, help in bearing, to help in general." Vine

see example in Luke 10:38-40 of Martha and Mary

What is our weakness in this passage ?

weakness (noun) - *astheneia* - usage notes: lit., "want of strength" (*a*, negative, *sthenos*, "strength"), "weakness," indicating inability to produce results, is most frequently translated "infirmity," or "infirmities" Vine

Literal: the Spirit joins in to help the weakness (infirmity) of us

the Spirit also helps (or joins in to help)
our **weakness**



weakness when used of Paul

1 Cor. 2:3 I was with you in **weakness** and in fear and in much trembling,

2 Cor. 12:9 And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in **weakness**." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my **weaknesses**, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. :10 Therefore I am well content with **weaknesses**, with insults , with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

But every believer has no weakness in his position in Christ

Eph. 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,

Col. 2:9 For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, :10 and in Him you have been made complete , and He is the head over all rule and authority;

the Spirit also helps our weakness



for we do not **know** how to pray as we should

perfect, indicative, active

know - oida - usage notes: from the same root as *eidon*, "to see," is a perfect tense with a present meaning, signifying, primarily, "to have seen or perceived"; hence, "**to know, to have knowledge of**" Vine

Literal: we do not know the what we should pray for as is necessary

expanded using perfect tense: we did not know the what to pray for in the past and we continue not to know the what to pray for up into the present as we ought

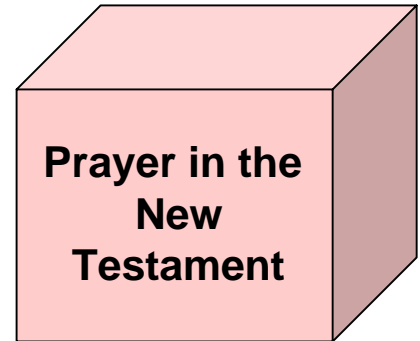
see example of Paul's prayer in 2 Cor. 12:7-9

The Church: Her Worship in Prayer and Thanksgiving*



- Prayer under grace - overview

- new ground of prayer after the death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ and giving of the Holy Spirit
- new relationship between the Godhead and the believer
- joined to the Lord as members of His body
- all believers are in a favored position in Christ
- is one of the blessings of the believer's life under grace



- Prayer under grace will be “in Christ's name” John 16:24 & 26

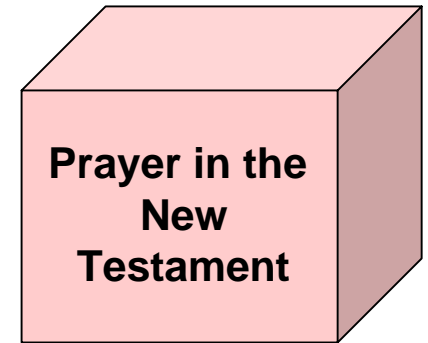
- Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive
- In that day you will ask in My name

The Church: Her Worship in Prayer and Thanksgiving*



- Prayer under grace involves the **Father, Son and Holy Spirit**

- offered to the Father John 16:23
- in the name of the Son John 16:23
- in the power of the Holy Spirit Jude 1:20



- Order in prayer is not arbitrary

- prayer is to be “through Him” not “to Him”
 - prayer is to be “in My name” John 14:13-14
- prayer is to be “by Him” not “to Him”
 - by means of the Holy spirit Jude 1:20



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the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us*

with groanings too deep for words

intercedes - hyperentynchanō - usage notes: "to make a petition" or "intercede on behalf of another" (*hyper*, "on behalf of," and entynchanō) Vine

compound word: intercedes + "on behalf" of or pleads + "on behalf of"

see Rom. 11:1-2 Elijah pleads with God

the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us*

with **groanings** too deep for words



groaning - stenagmos - usage notes: akin to stenazō "to groan" (of an inward, unexpressed feeling of sorrow), is used one other time in Acts 7:34, root word is used in Mark 7:34, 2 Cor. 5:1 – 4 Vine

Rom. 8:22 For we know that the **whole creation groans** and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now

Rom 8:23 - - - even **we ourselves groan** within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

What is the difference among the following:
the Spirit groaning, our groaning and creation groaning?

the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us*

with **groanings** too deep for words



but the Spirit Himself comes to our rescue by interceding with **unutterable groanings** (Wuest)

unexpressed or unutterable groanings

unutterable is the negative of to speak or to utter

God's grace is shown in that He intercedes for us without us asking

This intercession is similar to our groaning and creation groaning but without words



27 and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to *the will of God*.

He who searches the hearts

knows

what is the mind of the Spirit

searches - eraunaō - usage notes: the Greek word 'ereunaō' may also be used - an earlier form, "to search, examine," is used Vine

Who is searching the hearts ? see 1 Chron. 28:9 and Rev. 2:23

He who searches the hearts

knows

what is the **mind** of the Spirit

“odia”
perfect
indicative
active



expanded using perfect tense: God knew the mind of the Spirit in the past and continues to know the mind of the Spirit up into the present

see 1 Cor. 2:10 -11

mind - phronēma - usage notes: denotes "what one has in the mind, the thought" (the content of the process expressed in phroneō, "to have in mind, to think"); or "an object of thought" Vine

see Rom 8:6 – 7 translated “mind set”

27 and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to *the will of God*.



He intercedes

for the saints

according to *the will of God*

root form of
“intercedes”
from verse 26
present
indicative
active

He continually makes intercession – present tense

“on behalf of” the saints

literal: according to God

Romans 8:26-27 (Wuest NT)



26 And in like manner also the Spirit lends us a helping hand with reference to our weakness, for the particular thing that we should pray for according to what is necessary in the nature of the case, we do not know with an absolute knowledge; but the Spirit himself comes to our rescue by **interceding** with unutterable groanings.

27 Moreover, He who is constantly searching our hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit because, according to God, He **continually makes intercession** on behalf of the saints.