**OPEN YOUR MOUTH**

**PSALM 81:10**

**I. GOD’S IDENTITY**

**“*I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt:*”**

In order to be convinced that prayer is *practical*, *powerful*, or even *necessary*, we must realize who is making the promise found in this verse.

**A. HE IS THE LORD**

The word Lord, when capitalized in the KJV, is a translation of the word Jehovah. Jehovah is the eternal, self-existent one.

Exodus 3:14, “*And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM:*”

Because He exists, we are not wasting our breath when we speak.

Because He is eternal, He will always exist and has already existed.

This means that God is able to start working on answers even before we ask.

Isaiah 65:24, “*And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.*”

**B. HE IS OUR GOD**

He was talking to Israel.

But today those who know Christ as Savior know that the Lord is their God.

John 1:12, “*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*”

**C. HE IS OUR DELIVER**

He brought Israel out of the bondage of Israel.

He brought us Christians out of the bondage of sin.

He is available to keep on delivering.

By God saying this He was saying, “*I have shown myself to be God when I performed a work that none other could perform.*”

Because God has none what no one else has done or could do we *owe* our entire existence and liberty to Him.

Page 2

**II. GOD’S INVITATION**

**“*open thy mouth wide,*”**

I have received many invitations to many functions, but this invitation is greatest of all.

The God who made me His child invites me to open my mouth wide and ask.

Jeremiah 33:3, “*Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.*”

Matthew 7:7-11, “*Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:* 8 *For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.* 9 *Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?* 10 *Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?* 11 *If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?*”

Hebrews 4:14-16, “*Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.* 15 *For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.* 16 *Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*”

I think of hungry baby birds when I think of mouths open wide.

They keep their mouths wide open, in anxious anticipation of being fed.

When I have peeped into their nest they seemed to me to be all mouth and beak, with but a little trace of wing.

**Hunger determines our appreciation for food.**

The best dinners ever cooked and placed on a king’s table were wasted unless those that came to the feast had a desire for food.

On the other side of the pendulum, there has been many a person who has found a crust of bread in the desert a richer dainty than the most delicious culinary combinations of some renowned chef.

Page 3

You see, in one case he was hungry and in the other he was not.

There is no limit to God’s blessings when we are willing to receive.

David said in so many words, “*I opened my mouth and panted.*”

You have seen a dog after a long run; how he stands with opened mouth panting for life and breath.

Oh, that we had desires after God and divine things strong enough to make us thus open our mouth and pant!

We may never have seen a deer in such extremes, but I dare say David had.

He had seen it in the fierce hunt, when it longed to have its smoking sides in the water brooks and to drink long draughts, and he said, “*As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.*”—Psalm 42:1.

Nothing puts such energy into prayer as intense anguish of desire.

Are you expecting to be filled?

Are you expecting God to feed your soul?

When you walked in tonight did you expect to meet God?

Did you come expecting that when the song leader got up to lead singing that God might have something special for you?

Did you come looking to hear a testimony that might boast your feeble faith and make it strong enough that you could believe God for yourself?

Revelation 22:17, “*And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*”

**III. GOD’S INPUT**

**“*and I will fill it.*”**

Page 4

Little birds in the nest open their mouths widely enough, and perhaps the parent birds fail to fill them, but it will never be so with our God.

His treasures of grace are inexhaustible.

Men may possibly cry to God for inferior things, and ask in vain.

Even good people may ask for temporal blessings, and not receive them; because the things we suppose good, may not be good, or not good for us, or not good for us at present.

But none shall seek God for the best of blessings in vain.

If we ask enough, we shall have it.

Did you ever try your little child by holding fast in your hand something that he wanted?

You wished to see whether he had perseverance enough to pull open your fingers one by one to get what he wished for; and you have shut your hand very tight, and tried his endeavors so long that at last you have seen the big round tear stand in his eye, and then you have held out no longer.

The tear opens the hand.

Remember the Syrophenician woman who came to Jesus because her daughter was demon-possessed?

She realized she wasn’t worthy of the loaf, so she asked for a crumb that the little dogs ate.

And Jesus replied to her by saying, “*O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt.*”—Matthew 15:28.

You see, the Lord gave this woman a blank check.

He was saying, “*Take what thy will.*”

You see, that woman was hungry.

The custom is said still to exist in Persia that when the king wishes to do a visitor, an ambassador for instance, especial honour, he desires him to open his mouth wide; and the king then crams it as full of sweetmeats as it will hold.

Page 5

In fact, one time the Shah of Persia bade an ambassador, who was in great favor with him, open his mouth, and when he had done so the monarch filled it with diamonds, pearls, rubies, and emeralds, which of course were a present to him.

I warrant you that if any emperor or king should bid us open our mouths that we might have them filled with diamonds, we should be very sure to extend them to their largest possible capacity,

How far will you stretch forth in godly *desires* and *aspirations*?

So many times our cup is small, and we blame the fountain.

No wise man will try to put a gallon of any liquid into a quart pot.

God grant to all of us far greater capacity!

Dr. John R. Rice used to tell of an old slave in a southern state after the close of the Civil War who had been the personal servant to a southern gentleman, was set free by Lincoln’s proclamation. His master was old and he begged the slave to stay and take care of him.   
 He promised to take good care of the former slave if he would stay. The slave loved his master and humbly agreed to stay as this man’s servant, which he did until his master died. After the master died, the former slave mowed lawns, chopped kindling, and ran errands to make a living. Eventually his legs grew stiff and his body became bent with age. There came a time when he couldn’t do enough work to buy even the poorest and simplest of groceries. He lived in an old shack and got his clothing out of people’s garbage. An old friend of his master’s family said to him one day, “*Sam, you don’t have to live this way, your master told me that he deposited $5,000.00 in the bank for you. Go to the bank and get some money to buy what you need!*”  Back on those days, a man might work a whole day for less than one dollar. After much persuasion the timid old man decided to go to the bank. Standing at the teller’s window, turning his hat nervously in his hand, he inquired of the teller if any money had been left in the bank for him.

Page 6

The clerk told him yes that there was money at hand for him and that he could have it whenever he wished. He said, “*Could I have as much as fifty cents to get me a sack of meal?*” The teller replied that he could have as much as he wanted, up to $5,000.00.  So the former slave told the teller to make out a check for fifty cents, and with trembling hands he made his mark beside his name. Then he took the bright fifty cent piece and shuffled away to buy some meal, and to live in his poor little shack in his rags and poverty, leaving $4,999.50 in the bank!

Romans 8:32, “*He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?*”

What a word is that — “*all* things!”

Your prayers cannot outrun those comprehensive words — “*all things*.”

**CON:**

Proverbs 8:21, “*That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures.*”

Jeremiah 31:25, “*For I have satiated the weary soul, and I have replenished every sorrowful soul.*”

Sermon Seed: Pastor Jack Peters; pt. 1 and bare outline.

PREPARED BY: BRO. JAYME D. CARTER