

Petition #15:

A Prayer Concerning Natural Disasters (Hurricanes, Floods, Fires, etc.) in the Houston Metropolitan Area

Scripture Reading:

II Samuel 22:1-4, 47, I Kings 8:35-40

Reflections of the Heart:

When God created the heavens and the earth, He set in motion the marvelous laws of nature. He is omniscient, so He knows all of the events which will affect our lives. Because evil was allowed to enter our universe, natural disasters will occur. It is our responsibility to be diligent in prayer and praise the Lord for His divine intervention and protection concerning natural disasters.

Scriptural Prayer:

Abba Father, We thank You, Lord God, for You are our Rock, our Fortress, and our Savior; You are our Rock, in whom we find protection. You are our Shield, the Power that saves us, and our place of safety. Thank You, Abba Father, for the plans You have for us. They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give us a future and a hope. Thank You for protecting our city and nation during times of natural disasters in the past. Thank You for helping Houston to recover from Hurricane Ike. We sing praises to You and to Your Name! We sing loud praises to You who ride the clouds. Your Name is the Lord, and we rejoice in Your presence! Father, to the fatherless, defender of widows – You are God, whose dwelling is holy. Your faithful love never ends! Your mercies never cease. Great is Your faithfulness; Your mercies begin afresh each morning.

Omnipresent Father, when hurricanes, floods, fires, earthquakes, or any other natural disasters strike, we confess that we will stand steadfast in faith and declare Your Word. We declare that You are our refuge; we make You, the Most High, our shelter. No evil will conquer us; no plague will come near our homes. Your Word states that You command Your angels to protect us wherever we go. Therefore, we expect them to hold us up with their hands, so we won't even hurt our feet on a stone. Father, You said that You would rescue us from six disasters; even in the seventh, You will keep us from evil. We expect this Word to protect us when we are threatened by these dangers. We decree that we are led by God to a place of safety; we are rescued because God delights in us. We proclaim that those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in Your shadow, Almighty God.

Holy Spirit, warn the body of Christ in the Greater Houston Area about impending danger so that we can begin to pray for our city. Touch the hearts of our citizens to be prepared in advance in order to minimize panic, fear and last-minute preparation. If there are any breaches in the protective covering that surrounds our city, reveal them to us and we will repair them through prayer and obedience.

I will use wisdom to prepare in the following ways for natural disasters which occur from time to time where I live:

Forgiving Father, forgive our many, many sins. Forgive us, the body of Christ, for not always following Your principles or demonstrating Your love. Forgive us for devaluing the message of the Gospel through actions that are not Christ-like. Forgive those churches, Christian organizations, and businesses who took advantage of the Hurricane Ike destruction. There is so much that we need to repent for. Holy Spirit, bring to our remembrance what we need to repent for. Lord, forgive me for ***(list any sins that you have committed.)*** Holy Spirit, remind our Pastors and their families to forgive each other and other people, and please help them to forgive. As for me, Holy Spirit, bring to my remembrance those I need to forgive. ***(Take a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to show you names or faces of people that you may need to forgive. As He shows you, say aloud, "I forgive name of person(s)." Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in your soul caused by unforgiveness.)***

Amazing Father, help us to not yield to temptation; but deliver us from the evil one.

We know Your greatness, Lord – that You are greater than any other god. You do whatever pleases You throughout all heaven and earth, and on the seas and in their depths. You cause the clouds to rise over the whole earth. You send the

lightning with the rain and release the wind from Your storehouses. Your Name, O Lord, endures forever; Your fame, O Lord, is known to every generation. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: Psalm 68:4-5, Lamentations 3:22-23, Psalm 18:2, Jeremiah 29:11, Psalm 91:9-12, Job 5:19, Psalm 18:19, Psalm 91:1-2, Psalm 25:11, Psalm 135:5-7, Psalm 135:13

Today I will trust God to:
