

(14)  
THE  
RETURNE  
OF  
PRAYERS.

A Treatise,  
VVHEREIN THIS CASE

[How to discern Gods Answers to our Prayers]

is briefly resolved :

WITH  
Other Observations upon *Psalm 85.8.*  
concerning Gods speaking Peace, &c.

By THO: GOODWIN, B.D.

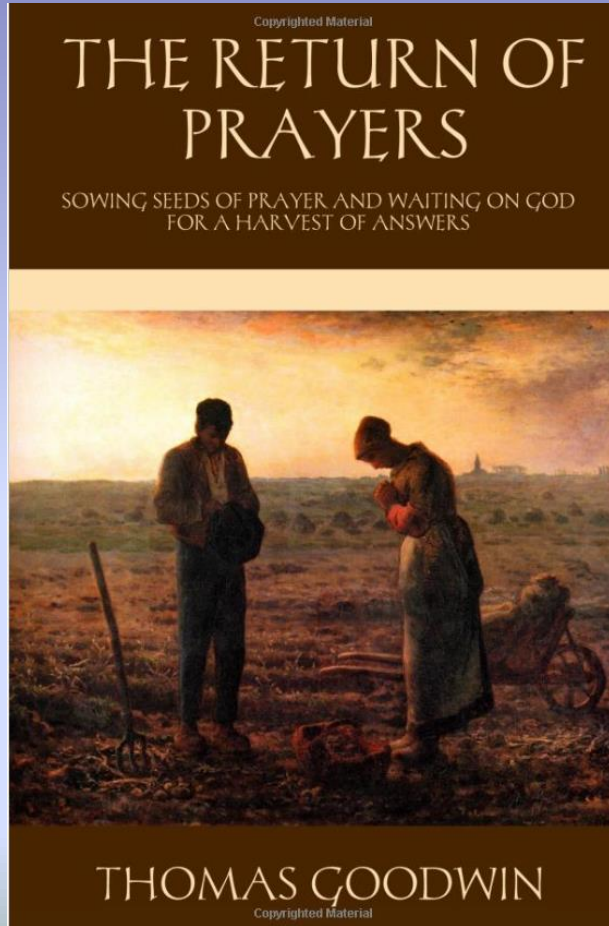
HAB. 2. 1.

*I will watch to see what he will say to me.*

L O N D O N,  
Printed by M. F. for R. Dawlman. 1643.



**Thomas Goodwin**  
**(1600-1679)**



## Psalm 85:8

**I will hear what  
God the LORD will  
say. . .**

# Reasons for Watching for Answers

# Help in Watching for Answers

# **Help in Watching for Answers**

1. Prayers for the Church.

# Help in Watching for Answers

1. Prayers for the Church.
2. Prayers for others.







# Help in Watching for Answers

1. Prayers for the Church.
2. Prayers for others.
3. **Prayers prayed with others.**



Collection of Ed Jackson



Collection of Ed Jackson

*Satan is apt to object,  
that though the thing  
is granted indeed, yet  
it is not for thy  
prayers, but for the prayers of those others  
who joined in it with you.*



***Then the LORD said to me, “Even though Moses and Samuel were to stand before Me, My heart would not be with this people. . .” (Jer. 15:1).***

**1 Did your heart sympathize with the same holy affections that the others had?**

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**Mtt. 18:19 *If two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask***

**. . .**



**1 Did your heart sympathize with the same holy affections that the others had?**

**Mtt. 18:19 *If two of you agree (sumphoneo) on earth about anything that they may ask . . .***



## Thomas Goodwin (1600-1679)

*It is not simply their  
agreeing in the thing prayed  
for, but in the affections; for  
it is the affections that make the concert  
and the melody.*

***These all with one mind were  
continually devoting themselves to  
prayer.***

**Acts 1:14**

***These all **with one mind** were  
continually devoting themselves to  
prayer.***

**Acts 1:14**

***. . . they lifted up their voices to God with one accord and said, O Lord, it is You who MADE THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH AND THE SEA, AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM,***

**Acts 4:24**

*. . . they lifted up their voices to God **with  
one accord** and said, O Lord, it is You  
who **MADE THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH  
AND THE SEA, AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM,***

**Acts 4:24**



**Thomas Goodwin**  
**(1600-1679)**

*Now if the same holy  
affections were touched  
and struck by God's Spirit in  
thy heart that were in theirs, then thou  
didst help to make up the concert.*



**Goodwin notes that God sometimes stirs up the same spiritual instinct in different people at the same time, though they may not even know one another.**

**2 God usually gives a man evidence that his prayers contributed to the obtaining of the “return.”**

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**a. By some circumstance (Lk. 2:25-30).**

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- a. By some circumstance (Lk. 2:25-30).**
- b. By filling his heart with joy (I Thess. 1:2; 3:6-9).**



**Thomas Goodwin**  
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*When a ship comes home, not only the chief owners, but everyone that ventured shall have a share out of the return, in a proportion to the adventure.*

- 1 Sympathy with the same holy affections as others.**
- 2 God usually gives a man evidence that his prayers contributed to the obtaining of the “return.”**
- 3 A case in which the thing prayed for concerned you, and was answered.**



**Thomas Goodwin**  
**(1600-1679)**

**God is the One Who  
stirs our hearts to pray.**