

in the efficacy of the prayers of others. How often does he ask those to whom he writes, to help him by their prayers. It was no mere form of words with him when he said, "pray for me." So fully does he believe in the power of their prayer, that he specifies the things they are to ask for.

That utterance may be given unto me in opening my mouth. The word for "utterance" here is usually rendered "word." He asks them to pray that whenever he opens his mouth to speak, the word may be given him, so that he may *make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel . . . that therein I may speak as boldly as I ought to speak.* Paul believed that unless the Lord put the right words in his mouth when he opened it to speak, he should never be able to speak as he ought, and that the desired result would come in answer to their prayers for him. If this was so with Paul the mighty apostle, how much more do ministers and evangelists and teachers and personal workers need the prayers of Christians, that they may speak the right words in the right manner? Few suspect how much such prayers have to do with the effectiveness of the preacher's words, or how much is lost for the lack of them. Pray for the preacher, that the words he speaks may be God's message; that he may be the mouthpiece of the Holy Spirit, and not utter simply his own thoughts and opinions.

4. CLOSING WORDS (vs. 21-24).

His letter is now complete. It only remains for him to speak a few personal words, and give his benediction. What tenderness does he show in these closing words. He realizes how anxious they will be to know