

# PURSUE

THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF A MAN AFTER GOD'S HEART



**Our Pursuits Determine Our Perceptions!**



# AUGUSTUS

*First Emperor of the Roman Empire*



“Augustus’ unprophetic mind sent no searchlight into the future, neither did his eyes behold the star in the east.”

- *Elbert Hubbard*



“The one thing God desires is our attention, and He does all the rest.” - Pastor Jim Cymbala



## **Pursuing God Has A Fundamental Promise Attached To It!**

...He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)



**DAVID PURSUED GOD  
AND EXPERIENCED  
TRANSFORMATION**



<sup>5</sup> Then David said to the young man who brought him the report, “How do you know that Saul and his son Jonathan are dead?”  
<sup>6</sup> “I happened to be on Mount Gilboa,” the young man said, “and there was Saul, leaning on his spear, with the chariots and their drivers in hot pursuit. <sup>7</sup> When he turned around and saw me, he called out to me, and I said, ‘What can I do?’ <sup>8</sup> “He asked me, ‘Who are you?’ “ ‘An Amalekite,’ I answered. <sup>9</sup> “Then he said to me, ‘Stand here by me and kill me! I’m in the throes of death, but I’m still alive.’

2 Samuel 1:5-12 (NIV)



<sup>10</sup>“So I stood beside him and killed him, because I knew that after he had fallen he could not survive. And I took the crown that was on his head and the band on his arm and have brought them here to my lord.” <sup>11</sup>Then David and all the men with him took hold of their clothes and tore them. <sup>12</sup>They mourned and wept and fasted till evening for Saul and his son Jonathan, and for the army of the LORD and for the nation of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.

2 Samuel 1:5-12 (NIV)



# WHEN WE PURSUE GOD, HE TRANSFORMS OUR PROBLEMS

<sup>10</sup>“So I stood beside him and killed him, because I knew that after he had fallen he could not survive. **And I took the crown that was on his head and the band on his arm and have brought them here to my lord.**”

2 Samuel 1:10 (NIV)



# GEORGE PATTON

*U.S. Army General, World War II*

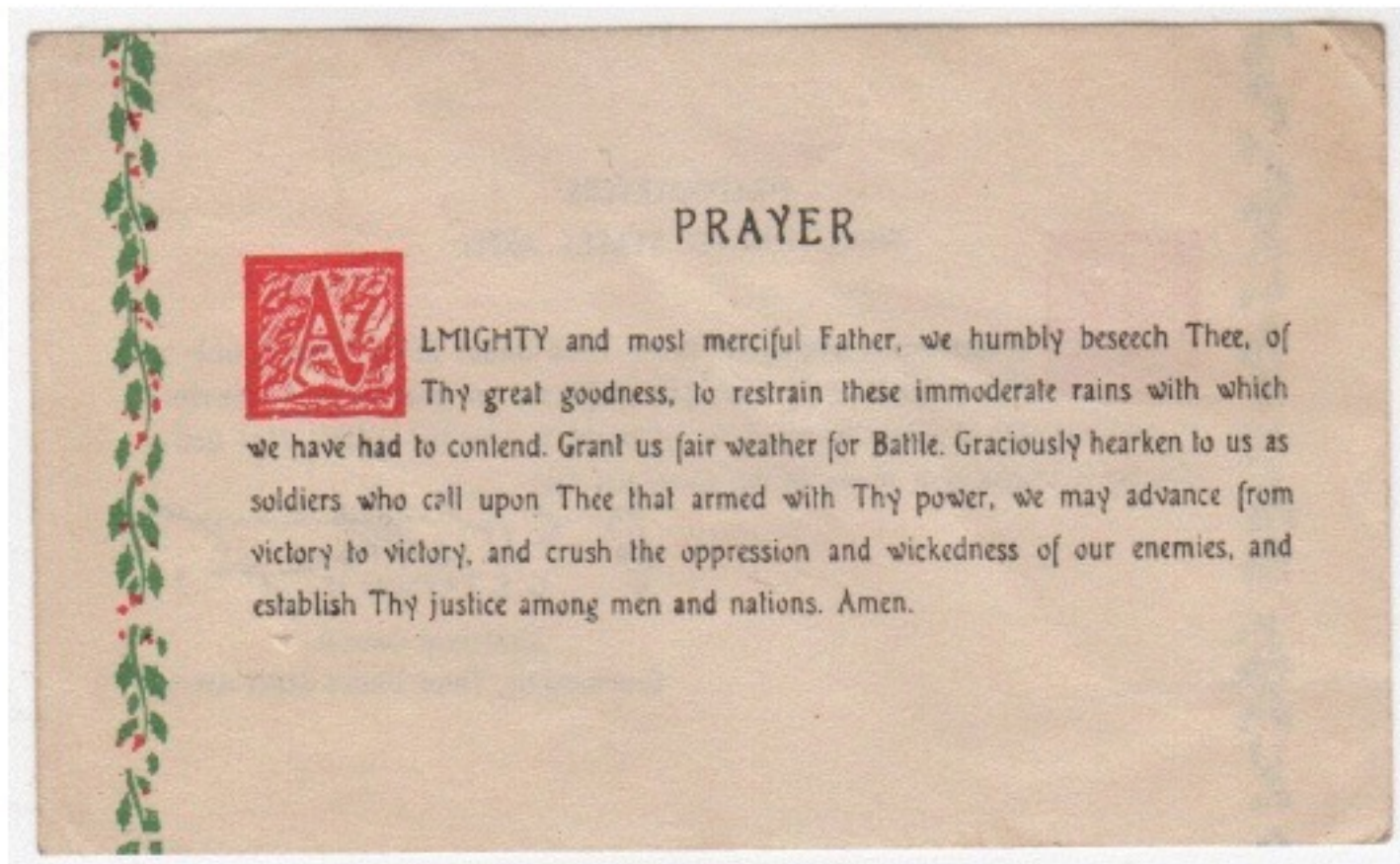


During the Battle of the Bulge, American troops were encircled and trapped by German forces.

Patton summoned Third Army Chaplain Colonel James O'Neill and told him to draft a prayer that would break the weather and allow the troops to attack.

A card with the prayer went out to 250,000 troops.

The next day, the weather cleared and remained perfect for six days, and the Army came out victorious.





## PRAYER



ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we humbly beseech Thee, of Thy great goodness, to restrain these immoderate rains with which we have had to contend. Grant us fair weather for Battle. Graciously hearken to us as soldiers who call upon Thee that armed with Thy power, we may advance from victory to victory, and crush the oppression and wickedness of our enemies, and establish Thy justice among men and nations. Amen.



# WHEN WE PURSUE GOD, HE TRANSFORMS THE PEOPLE AROUND US

<sup>11</sup> Then David and all the men with him took hold of their clothes and tore them. <sup>12</sup> They mourned and wept and fasted till evening for Saul and his son Jonathan, and for the army of the LORD and for the nation of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.

2 Samuel 1:11-12 (NIV)



# BARON FRIEDRICH WILHELM VON STEUBEN

*Prussian War Officer,  
American Revolutionary War Volunteer*



In 1778, following a crushing defeat at the Battle of Valley Forge, Baron Von Steuben arrived and “restored morale, introduced discipline, and whipped the tattered soldiers into fighting shape.”

“They went from a ragtag collection of militias to be a professional force. It was his ability to bring this army the kind of training and understanding of tactics that made them able to stand toe to toe with the British.”

- *Larrie Ferreiro, Brothers at Arms*



# **WHEN WE PURSUE GOD, HE TRANSFORMS THE PEOPLE AROUND US**

“What is honored in a culture gets cultivated there.” - Plato



# WHEN WE PURSUE GOD, HE TRANSFORMS OUR POSITION

<sup>1</sup>In the course of time, David inquired of the LORD. “Shall I go up to one of the towns of Judah?” he asked. The LORD said, “Go up.” David asked, “Where shall I go?” “To Hebron,” the LORD answered.

<sup>2</sup>So David went up there with his two wives, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel. <sup>3</sup>David also took the men who were with him, each with his family, and they settled in Hebron and its towns. <sup>4</sup>Then the men of Judah came to Hebron, **and there they anointed David king over the tribe of Judah.**

2 Samuel 2:1-4 (NIV)



# **WHEN WE PURSUE GOD, HE TRANSFORMS OUR POSITION**

<sup>6</sup>For promotion comes neither from the east, nor the west, nor from the south. <sup>7</sup>But God is the judge: he puts down one, and sets up another.

Psalm 75:6-7