

**CONQUERING PRAYER:  
OR, THE POWER OF  
PERSONALITY**

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Conquering prayer: or, The power of personality by L. Swetenham

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## THE POWER OF PERSONALITY

BY

L. SWETENHAM

AUTHOR OF "RELIGIOUS GENIUS"

SECOND IMPRESSION.

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To

THE FRIENDS AND FOES  
IN CONFLICT WITH WHOM I HAVE COME TO SEE  
THAT VICTORIOUS PERSONALITY  
IS THE  
SECRET OF PREVAILING PRAYER

## PREFACE

IN the perusal of this small volume the reader will do well to start with a clear understanding on two points:—First, that the following pages are not intended to be in any sense a complete or exhaustive treatment of the subject of Prayer. The subject is so vast, and in the consideration of it, so many alluring avenues of thought open up, that it has been no easy matter to exercise self-restraint and keep within the bounds set by an attempt to deal with a great subject in a limited space. Of necessity many aspects of Prayer have been left untouched, while others have been merely indicated.

The subject has naturally divided itself into two parts—the one dealing with Man's appeal to, and demand upon, the Immanent God, "Who worketh in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure": and the other treating of his relations with the Transcendent God, Who while above and beyond all created things, yet concerns Himself intimately with the affairs of human life, and brings to bear upon them the greater powers and resources that lie outside the domain of man's limited nature.

As may be expected, these differing standpoints give rise to widely differing views of Prayer, and those who hold the one set of views often fail to appreciate the other; it is but rarely that the same mind can do full justice to both.



Nevertheless an outlook from both standpoints is necessary if a complete and balanced view of the subject is to be gained. The author would therefore bespeak for each of the two aspects of Prayer presented in the following pages an unprejudiced and patient consideration, believing that a more comprehensive view must lead to larger and more practical issues in the exercise of prayer.

The second point on which an understanding is required, has reference to the meaning and scope of the term Prayer as used in these pages. At the outset the reader will do well to recognise that the word is given its widest significance, and taken to imply those instinctive desires of a man's heart, or the deliberate decisions of his will which actively seek fulfilment, and which go forth in quest of that fulfilment, depending on the help and guidance of a Personal God or of His universe and its laws. This view is taken throughout the book and includes supplication, action, aspiration, ambition, regarding them as different forms of Prayer, which, metaphysically-interpreted, they undoubtedly are.

With these explanations the author offers this little volume to earnest souls seeking to explore the great realm of Prayer, hoping that it may, in some small measure, aid them in their quest for fuller light and power.

L. SWETENHAM.

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