On Pray, sin: Homer paints a picture; Iliad I (Bk. 9.) I-498 -- I-508 or I-502 - I-512:

From Agamemnon dispatched, with Odysseus, The Wall Ajax, and the two heralds; Phoenix, the old teacher/counselor to Achilles in his hut, before Troy:

"...In fact Prayers are the Daughters of All-powerful God,
wrinkled and lame, with embarrassed eyes throughout,
they are busy walking behind sin; but sin is strong and fleet of foot,
and all of them outpaces; and is pre-eminent on earth in impeding mankind,
who coming after, they (prayers) bring cure.
Indeed, who these Daughters of God pay due honour
as they approach with their plenty, these are greatly benefited
and are rescued by their petitions; but who might be impelled resistively
to renounce them, they (prayers), going to God, pray that all at once,
their sin, (He) not stand with; wherein hindering, He may chastise them."