



## Are Your Prayers Heard?

### **John 9:31**

**Now we know that God heareth not sinners, but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.**

Sin—A transgression of a religious or mortal law. Something shameful or wrong.

Transgression—To act in violation of a law or commandment.

Sinner—An individual who practices sin.

In essence, sin is the failure or refusal of human beings to live the life intended for them by God. The Bible teaches “All have sinned and became short of the glory of God.” Many times people use this scripture to make an excuse for their sins.

It's not God's desire for anyone to perish, but He has given each of us a free choice whether to serve Him or serve Satan; we will serve one or the other. It's amazing how we can follow the instructions of books, secular teachers, our employer, relatives and friends, but when it comes to the Word of God, we always find an excuse not to believe or refuse to follow it's instructions.

We're all in need of having our prayers answered, but there is a standard in order to receive an answer to our prayer. Christians have a covenant with God, a covenant is different from a blessing. God will bless the ungodly as He will the godly, but when you have a covenant with God, we have a

contract with Him that He will do what His Word has promised. When we go to God in prayer, we should have confidence, He will hear our prayer and answer it.

A Christian is not one that attends church on Sunday and lives a completely different lifestyle Monday through Saturday. A Christian is one that worships God in spirit and in truth. A true Christian is one that has surrendered themselves completely and totally to God. He is no longer just their savior, but He has become their Lord.

Some people that call themselves Christians are attending church and leaving the church the same way they came in. There hasn't been a change in their lifestyle. Satan has people believing just because they attend church that's enough; they can continue to practice sin and have their prayers answered, but God has given us a promise, that He will not hear the prayer of a sinner.

### **Isaiah 59:2**

**But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.**

We can be Christians and yet not have our prayers heard because of our iniquity. Iniquity is knowing the truth, but reject the truth and doing it our way rather than God's way. Israel's willful, persistent rebellion separated them from God. We are the spiritual Israel and when we continue to sin willfully, it offends God. God is holy He cannot

and will not ignore, excuse or tolerate sin as though it didn't matter. When we no longer let God's truth fill our hearts and lives, we become His adversary because we have become servants of Satan rather than God.

### **Romans 6:16**

**Know ye not, that to whom ye yield (present) yourselves servants to obey, his servant ye are to whom ye obey; whether sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?**

Too many times Christians are waiting to hear what the pastor, prophet or evangelist has to tell them when they should read the Bible for themselves to see what is required of them from God. You can't do or not do, if you're not familiar with the Word of God. God will hear the prayers of the righteous, but the prayers of the sinner He will not hear unless they repent and turn from their sin.

### **Proverbs 15:29**

**The Lord is far from the wicked; but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.**

God has an appointed time to answer prayers, but don't let your prayers be denied or hinder because of the iniquity in your life. God has given us moral, ethical and spiritual laws to govern ourselves by and when we reject these laws this is considered sin in God's eyes. Do you think just because you attend church your prayers are heard, your prayers are heard when you become the Church!

## ARE YOUR PRAYERS HEARD?

When we seek to please God, it pleases Him to give us our heart's desires when our hearts become like His heart.

We cannot live any kind of way and expect God to hear and answer our prayers.

When we instruct our children to live according to our rules and regulations of our home, we expect them to follow our rules and regulations. As long as we're placing a roof over their head, food on the table, purchasing their clothes, getting the things they request, we expect them to follow our guidelines. Well, it's the same way with God. In order to stay in the covenant, we must follow the instructions given us through the preaching, teaching, and reading the Bible.

Many are praying, but the prayers aren't being heard, because sin is blocking the prayer. Every time we have been given godly instructions, God holds us responsible for what we have heard. We will not be able to stand before Him and say we didn't know because He's always sending His word through something or someone. There will be no excuse of saying we didn't know when He has given us so many means of learning of Him. People need their prayers answered, and as Christians, we should be in a position to go before the Lord for those that cannot go into His presence because they willfully sin after receiving the knowledge of truth. Satan has people thinking because they pray, God hears the prayers, but answered prayers comes with condition and stipulations.

### **Psalm 4:3**

**But know that the Lord hath set apart him that is godly for**

**himself: the Lord will hear when I call.**

### **Proverbs 15:8**

**The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but the prayer of the upright is his delight.**

Abomination is something that God dislikes greatly. Abomination does not just apply to homosexuality, but it applies to all sin!

When we have submitted ourselves to God to do His will and not our will, this puts an obligation on God to hear and answer our prayers. God has promised, if we commit ourselves to Him we shall be blessed.

### **Proverbs 10:6**

**Blessings are upon the head of the just (righteous): but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.**

When God delivered the children of Israel out of Egypt, He didn't bring them out broke. He instructed them to borrow from the Egyptians jewels of silver and gold; that's how they made the golden calf from the gold and silver they received from the Egyptians. Prosperity comes from the Lord. He will bless our hands to get wealth when we walk up rightly before Him. God doesn't want us to be like the Israelites and forget who blessed us by making golden images and serving other gods. Prosperity belongs to the saints, but God wants us to be prosperous in other areas of our lives other than our finances. If you're rich and Jesus isn't your Lord and Savior, money cannot keep you from hell, finances cannot heal you, but Jesus can. Riches cannot heal a broken heart, but Jesus can. Riches cannot heal a confused mind, but Jesus can!

He wants our soul to prosper indicating our will, mind and emotions. When these are whole and, submitted to God, we can expect bountiful blessings. Health belongs to the saints, God promised, if we diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord our God, He would not put any of the diseases upon us as He did with the Egyptians. Egyptians indicates the unbeliever.

God wants to show Himself strong on our behalf, but we must come in line with the Word of God to receive the Word of God.

Moses was a man of prayer, and God heard his prayers, but when he allowed the people to vex him, it kept him from entering into the promise land. Many times our prayers aren't heard because we have allowed people to vex our mind, spirit and emotions to the point we say and do things that are contrary to the Word of God and it hinders our prayers from being answered. It's Satan's job to try to block, stop and hinder us from receiving from the Lord, but God has given us power through His Son to defeat the enemy of our souls. Rather than trying to avenge yourself, give the people and the situation to God and let God deal with them. Don't miss the promise land because of vexation. Pray that God will strengthen you to endure the test or tribulation without sinning against Him.

Whatever we have before God, we want to be in a position with Him that our prayers will be answered. Sometimes prayers are answered immediately and there are times when we have to wait for the prayer to be answered. During that time of waiting, if we're praying and submitting ourselves to God, He is taking our nature and placing a portion of His nature in us.

## ARE YOUR PRAYERS HEARD?

He's filling of us with faith, so that we will not have faith in the circumstance or what we feel and see. As long as we're living there is always room to grow in God and through trials and tribulations, it make us pray and commit ourselves to God. God loves us so much He will allow us to have trouble, to get us in the place He wants us to be spiritually.

Prayer does not keep us from going through trials, tribulations and test, but it will keep us while were going through them without losing our faith and commitment to God.

Job was a man that loved God and hated evil. He prayed daily for himself and his children, but because God trusted Job, He allowed Satan to come against his family and his body.

### **J**ob 23:10 -11

**But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. My foot hath held (held fast to) his steps, his way have I kept, and not declined.**

Job didn't blame God, nor did he stray away from the Word of God, Job was blessed twice as much as he had before. Some ministers are preaching that God does not want us to suffer, but God has not changed nor has His Word. As Christians there will come a time we will have to endure suffering, not because of what you have done, but because of who you are and whose you are. Jesus was our example of suffering.

Jesus hadn't sin, but through His suffering He learned obedience.

### **H**ebrews 5:8

**Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered.**

There was no sin in Jesus, but he suffered and because we are sons of God whether male or female, we will suffer, if we are truly sons of God. As we pray and commit ourselves to God, just as He resurrected Jesus, He will also resurrect us in the things that pertain to us as we continue in prayer and living according to God's will for us.

God wants to answer our prayers, but He also want us to be obedient to His ways and His instructions. God will never instruct us to do something He hasn't given us the power to overcome. If He tells you to do it, then know He has given you the power to conquer. There are depths in God, we have not touched, and will never touch if we don't position ourselves to go into a deeper realm of Him and that comes through prayer and submission along with fasting and prayer and reading the Word of God.

God hasn't changed, He is still answering prayers, but are we praying for Him to hear our prayers? Are we submitting ourselves to Him so He can answer our prayers?

### **1** Peter 3:12

**For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: But the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.**

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