



HINDERED PRAYERS
By
HAROLD HARSTVEDT

WHY DID THE LORD NOT LISTEN TO MOSES?

DEUTERONOMY 3:26-27

26 The LORD was angry with me on your account, and would not listen to me. So the LORD said to me: Enough of that! Speak no more to Me of this matter.

27 Go up to the top of Pisgah, and lift your eyes toward the west, the north, the south, and the east; behold it with your eyes, for you shall not cross over this Jordan.

WILL GOD LISTEN TO THE HYPOCRITE?

JOB 27:9-10

- 9 Will God hear his cry when trouble comes upon him?**
- 10 Will He delight himself in the Almighty? Will he always call on God?**

WHO WILL GOD NOT LISTEN TO?

JOB 35:12-13

12 They cry out, but He does not answer, because of the pride of evil men.

13 Surely God will not listen to empty talk, nor will the Almighty regard it.

WHY WILL GOD NOT LISTEN TO THEM?

PSALMS 66:18-20

- 18 **If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear.**
- 19 **But certainly God has heard me; He has attended to the voice of my prayer.**
- 20 **Blessed be God, who has not turned away my prayer, nor His mercy from me!**

WHY WILL GOD NOT ANSWER THEIR CALL?

PROVERBS 1:25-28

25 **Because you despised all my counsel,** and would have none of my rebuke,

26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your terror comes,

27 When your terror comes like a storm, and your destruction comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.

28 **They will call on Me, but I will not answer;** they will seek me diligently, but they will not find me.

WHOSE PRAY WILL GOD HEAR?

PROVERBS 15:8

8 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, but **the prayer of the upright is His delight.**

PROVERBS 15:29

29 The LORD is far from the wicked, but **He hears the prayer of the righteous.**

WHOSE PRAYER WILL GOD NOT HEAR?

PROVERBS 21:13

13 Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor **will also cry himself and not be heard.**

PROVERBS 28:9

9 One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, **even his prayer is an abomination.**

WHY WILL GOD NOT HEAR THEIR PRAYERS?

ISAIAH 1:15

15 **When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood.**

ISAIAH 59:1-2

1 **Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear.**

2 **But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.**

WHY DID GOD SAY “DO NOT PRAY FOR THIS PEOPLE

JEREMIAH 14:11-12

11 The LORD said to me, **Do not pray for this people**, for their good.

12 When they fast, **I will not hear their cry**; and when they offer burnt offering and grain offering, **I will not accept them**. But I will consume them by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence.

WHY DID GOD WITHDRAWN FROM THEM?

HOSEA 5:5-6

5 The pride of Israel testifies to His face; therefore Israel and Ephraim stumble in their iniquity; Judah also stumbles with them.

6 With their flocks and herds they shall go to seek the LORD, but they will not find Him; He has withdrawn Himself from them.

WHY WOULD THE LORD NOT LISTEN?

MICAH 3:4

4 **They will cry to the LORD, BUT He will not hear them.** He will even hide His face from them at that time, because **they have been evil in their deeds.**

ZECHARIAH 7:12-13

12 Yes, **they made their hearts like flint**, refusing to hear the law and the words which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets. Thus great wrath came from the LORD of hosts.

13 Therefore it happened, that just as He proclaimed and **they would not hear**, so they called out and **I would not listen**, says the LORD of hosts.

WHOSE PRAYER DID GOD HEAR?

LUKE 18:11-14

11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, **I thank You that I am not like other men --** extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector.

12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.

13 And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, **God, be merciful to me a sinner!**

14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

JOHN 9:31

31 We know that God does not hear sinners; but **if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will**, He hears him.

DID GOD HEAR CORNELIUS' PRAYERS?

ACTS 10:3-4

- 3 About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius!"
- 4 When he observed him, he was afraid, and said, "What is it, lord?" So he said to him, "**Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God.**"

ACTS 10:22

- 22 Cornelius' servants said, "Cornelius the centurion, a just man, **one who fears God and has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews**, was divinely instructed by a holy angel to summon you to his house, and to hear words from you.

WHY DID GOD HEAR CORNELIUS' PRAYERS?

ACTS 10:30-32

30 Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and **at the ninth hour I prayed in my house**, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing,

31 And said, 'Cornelius, **your prayer has been heard**, and **your alms are remembered in the sight of God**.

32 Send therefore to Joppa and call Simon here, whose surname is Peter. He is lodging in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea. When he comes, he will speak to you.

34 Peter opened his mouth and said: In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality.

35 But **in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him**.

WHAT IS A DOUBLE MINDED MAN?

JAMES 1:5-8

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, **let him ask of God**, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and **it will be given to him**.

6 But **let him ask in faith, with no doubting**, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

7 For **let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord**;

8 He is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

WHY DO WE NOT HAVE?

JAMES 4:2-3

2 You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet **you do not have because you do not ask.**

3 You ask and do not receive, because **you ask amiss,** that you may spend it on your pleasures.

WHY ARE YOUR PRAYERS HINDERED ?

1 PETER 3:7

7 **Husbands**, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, **giving honor to the wife**, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, **that your prayers may not be hindered.** (MALACHI 2:11-17)

WHY WERE THEIR PRAYERS HINDERED?

MALACHI 2:11-17

11 Judah has dealt treacherously, and an abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem, for **Judah has profaned the LORD'S holy institution which He loves: he has married the daughter of a foreign god.**

12 May the LORD cut off from the tents of Jacob the man who does this, being awake and aware, yet who brings an offering to the LORD of hosts!

13 And this is the second thing you do: **you cover the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping and crying; so He does not regard the offering anymore, nor receive it with goodwill from your hands.**

WHY WERE THEIR PRAYERS HINDERED?

MALACHI 2:11-17

14 Yet you say, For what reason? Because **the LORD has been witness between you and the wife of your youth, with whom you have dealt treacherously; yet she is your companion and your wife by covenant.**

15 But did He not make them one, having a remnant of the Spirit? And **why one? He seeks godly offspring.** Therefore take heed to your spirit, and **let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth.**

WHY WERE THEIR PRAYERS HINDERED?

MALACHI 2:11-17

16 For the LORD God of Israel says that He hates divorce, for it covers one's garment with violence, says the LORD of hosts. Therefore take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously.

17 You have wearied the LORD with your words; yet you say, In what way have we wearied Him? In that you say, Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and He delights in them, or, Where is the God of justice?

