

God Changes His Mind?

EXODUS 32:11-14 & JOHN 17

Exodus 32:11-14

¹¹ And Moses besought the LORD his God, and said, LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand? ¹² Wherefore should the Egyptians speak, and say, For mischief did he bring them out, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against thy people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever. ¹⁴ And the LORD repented of the evil which he thought to do unto his people.

God desires fellowship and partnership. (1
Corinthians 15:10 & 2 Corinthians 6:1)

Prayer becomes the means by which God chooses to
act. (James 4:2 - ...you have not because you do not
ask...)

If the trial we encounter is the test, then prayer will always be the answer.

True prayer for people is predicated on our love for people.

Exodus 32:31-33

³¹ Then Moses returned to the LORD and said, “Oh, these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold! ³² Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written.” ³³ And the LORD said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.

Our burdens drive our prayers.

What were Jesus' burdens when He prayed? (John 17)

What Were Jesus' Burdens When He Prayed?

1. That He would finish His race strong

John 17:1-5 - Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, ² as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. ⁴ I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. ⁵ And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

Jesus found the strength for the cross while He was on His knees in the Garden.

A prayerful person is a powerful and resilient person in the Holy Spirit.

2 Timothy 2:3 - ³ You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

2 Timothy 4:5 & 7 - ⁵ But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry... ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

What Were Jesus' Burdens When He Prayed?

1. That He would finish His race strong
2. That His disciples would not lose heart/faith

John 17:14-16

¹⁴ I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵ I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

Luke 22:31-32 – ³¹ And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift *you* as wheat. ³² But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to *Me*, strengthen your brethren.”

Satan is still desiring to sift those who follow Jesus. What are we doing about it?

What Were Jesus' Burdens When He Prayed?

1. That He would finish His race strong
2. That His disciples would not lose heart/faith
3. That His disciples would be unified

John 17:22-23 - ²² And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: ²³ I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

The Holy Spirit does not come to make us unified; the Holy Spirit comes to make us unified.

A unified church is a powerful town-changing, life-changing church because it is filled with powerful, Holy Spirit filled men and women.

What Were Jesus' Burdens When He Prayed?

1. That He would finish His race strong
2. That His disciples would not lose heart/faith
3. That His disciples would be unified
4. That the lost would find salvation through Himself

Matthew 9:36-38 - ³⁶ But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. ³⁷ Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly *is* plentiful, but the laborers *are* few. ³⁸ Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”

Ezekiel 22:29-30 - ³⁰ I searched for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for [the sake of] the land, that I would not destroy it, but I found no one [not even one]. ³¹ Therefore I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; I have repaid their way [by bringing it] upon their own heads," says the Lord God. (AMP)

James 5:14-16 - ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

James 5:17-18 - ⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours [with the same physical, mental, and spiritual limitations and shortcomings], and he prayed intensely for it not to rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and the sky gave rain and the land produced its crops [as usual]. (AMP)