Does God Hear Us?

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I. WE HAVE THE POWER OF PRAYER!

A. We have proof He hears us in Scripture

- 1. Matthew 7:7 & 8 says, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."
- 2.<u>Hebrews 4:16</u> tells us, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."
- 3. <u>James 5:16</u> reads, "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."
- 4. Romans 8:26 reveals, "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought; but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."
- B. We have further proof He hears in these examples in Scripture.
- 1. Psalms 118:5 reads, "I called upon the Lord in distress; the Lord answered me, and set me in a large place."
- 2. <u>Jonah 2:1</u> & <u>2</u> lets us know, "Then Jonah prayed unto the Lord His God out of the fish's belly, and said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the Lord, and He heard me; out of the Belly of hell cried I, and Thou heardest my voice."
- 3. James 5:17 & 18 tells us, "Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth brought forth her fruit."
- 4.Solomon says in <u>1 Kings 3:9-13</u>, "Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge Thy people, that I may discern between good and bad for who is able to judge this Thy so great a people? And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon asked this thing. And God said unto him, because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; behold I have done according to thy words: Lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall arise like unto thee. And I have also given thee that thou hast not asked, both riches, and honor: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto Thee all thy days."

II. DOES GOD ALWAYS LISTEN?

- A. Moses told the Children of Israel in <u>Deuteronomy 1:45</u>, "And ye returned and wept before the Lord; But the Lord would not hearken to your voice, nor give ear unto you."
- B. Moses again spoke in <u>Deuteronomy 3:25</u> & <u>26</u>, "I pray thee, let me go over, and see the good land that is beyond Jordan, that goodly mountain and Lebanon. But the Lord was wroth with me for your sakes, and would not hear me: And the Lord said unto me, Let it suffice thee; speak no more unto me of this matter."
- C. The prophet Jeremiah wrote in <u>Lamentations 3:8</u>, "Also when I cry and shout, He shutteth out my prayer." He continues in verse 44, "Thou hast covered Thyself with a cloud, that our prayer should not pass through."
- D. Psalms 66:18 tells us, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me."

III. WHEN DOES GOD LISTEN?

A. John 9:31 reads, "If any man is a worshipper of God, and doeth His will, him He heareth." B. James 1:6 & 7 lets us know, "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord."

C.<u>1 Peter 3:7</u> tells us, "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers be not hindered."

IV. IN CONCLUSION

Prayer is powerful. Do not let our prayers be hindered by our worldly doings. Let us always rejoice in the things the Lord has done for us though our prayers.