



# Hindrances To Prayer

Retreating armies cut into / broke up  
road behind them – *hindered*

- Ac.24:4 – But so that I may not ‘delay’ you any further...
- 1 Th.2:18 – Therefore we wanted to come to you—even I, Paul, time and again—but Satan ‘hindered’ us.
- Gal.5:7 – You ran well. Who ‘hindered’ you from obeying the truth?
- 1 Pt.3:7 – . . . That your prayers may not be ‘hindered.’

# What if we lost privilege of prayer?

- Remember many times we neglected it?
- What hinders our prayers?

# I. Infidelity

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# James 1, the doubter

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. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord... -Ja.1:6-7

Faith-filled prayer rests on two bases –

1. God is Almighty; hears us. Job 38
2. God is Love. 1 Jn4:8; Ro.8:32

# God answers prayer according to our eternal needs, not necessarily our earthly wants

- 'No' – Mt.20:22
- 'Not now' – Ro.1:9, 13; 15:32. Ac.28
- Answer yes, then no – Mt.18
- Answer no, then yes – Moses; Lazarus
- Give more than we ask for – 1 K.3
- Give other than we ask for – Dt.3:23-27. 2 Co.12

I. Infidelity

**II. Ignorance**

# Luke 11 – implies right and wrong way to pray

- ❑ Construction of prayer, Lk.11:1...
- ❑ Concern of prayer, Lk.11:2...
- ❑ Content of prayer, Lk.11:2-4  
(1 Jn.5:14)
- ❑ Continuation of prayer, Lk.11:5-8
- ❑ Confidence of prayer, Lk.11:9-13



# The 'wrong way' illustrated

1. Ask God to work miracles. Hb.2:2-4.
2. Ask God to save lost without obedience.

<sup>8</sup>though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. <sup>9</sup>And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him – Hb.5.

Ro.10:1-3.

1 Jn.5:16.

# Common misunderstandings about prayer

1. God is unchangeable, so prayer has no effect. [1 Pt.3:12]
2. Omniscient God knows our needs before we ask. [Ja.5:16]
3. God cannot answer prayers without miracles. [Ja.5:17-18]
4. Reflex influence is the only benefit of prayer. [1 K.18. Ja.5; 1:5]

I. Infidelity

II. Ignorance

**III. Impurity**

# Many warnings

- Prov.28:9
- Isa.59:1-2
- 1 Pt.3:2...12

Then you returned and wept before the Lord, but the Lord would not listen to your voice nor give ear to you – Dt.1:45

Immoral lives  
during week

Unheard  
prayers

Impenitent  
prayers