

TRUST US WITH TROUBLE

Today we begin a series on the subject of prayer.

2 Chronicles 7:14 -...if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. (NIV)

TCC - For the church it is easy to take our eye off the target...people

Revelation 12:9 – So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world... (NKJV)

The real question is: Can the Lord trust with us trouble?

Zechariah 4:6 – So he said to me, "This is the Word of the Lord... 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty. (NIV)

Today I want to give you two reasons people stop praying that really are the two greatest reasons to absolutely pray.

The first reason people stop praying...

Sovereignty of God

Sovereignty = God has supreme reign

God as the supreme ruler has vested His authority on the earth to **HIS PEOPLE**.
The stewardship is ours.

The second reason people stop praying...

Immutability of God

To mutate = means to change

immutability = something that never changes

The immutability is not about God never changing His mind, it's about His unchanging character.

God absolutely can and does change His mind.... And TCC ...that's exactly why we should be praying

Deuteronomy 9:18 – Then once again I fell prostrate before the LORD for forty days and forty nights; I ate no bread and drank no water, because of all the sin you had committed, doing what was evil in the LORD's sight and so arousing his anger. ¹⁹ I feared the anger and wrath of the LORD, for he was angry enough with you to destroy you. **But again the LORD listened to me.** (NIV)

Exodus 32:9-14 – ⁹“I have seen these people,” the LORD said to Moses, “and they are a stiff-necked people. ¹⁰ Now leave me alone so that my anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them. Then I will make you into a great nation.” ... ¹¹But Moses sought the favor of the Lord his God. “Lord,”... -Then **the Lord relented** and did not bring on His people the disaster He had threatened. (NIV)

Jonah 4:2 – He prayed to the LORD, “Isn't this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. **I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.** (NIV)

TCC- Why pray?

... because God whose character IS UNCHANGING... He listens and changes His mind based on the people seeking Him!!

God changed His mind about you when the blood of Jesus was applied!

We Pray Because God is Sovereign... Because God is immutable...Changeless

- God cannot and will not change His character. He is who He is. God listens and cares. ... this is why we should pray

Romans 12:1... in view of Gods mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God... (NIV)

1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 – ¹⁷pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (NIV)

1 Timothy 2:1-2 – Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, ² for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. (NKJV)

Q Can the Lord trust us with trouble?

If my people...Humble, pray, seek, turn... then I will hear forgive and Heal