



Message Series Guide

Without Ceasing

Part 4 – Does Prayer Change God’s Mind?

Exodus 32:7-14

When Moses made an appeal on Mt. Sinai for God to withdraw His wrath from the Israelites, it certainly appeared that God changed His mind. *And the Lord relented from the disaster that He had spoken of bringing on his people* (Exodus 32:14). Can our prayers change God’s will? If God already knows what He’s going to do, then why should we waister time praying? When we pray, we never tell God something He doesn’t already know. However, God has chosen to use our prayers as a means by which to express our dependency on Him. It is true that God already knows all things and has predestined all things, but He still uses our prayers in a way that brings about His sovereign plan for our good and His glory.

READ:

Exodus 32:7-14 | Numbers 23:19 | Isaiah 46:9-10 | Ephesians 1:11 | Psalm 18:30 | Micah 3:6

- When Moses went up on Mt. Sinai, what did the people of Israel do that angered God? What did that decision reveal about the Israelites? How did God respond to the disobedience of the Israelites?
- What was Moses’ response to God’s anger? Do you believe Moses’ intercession changed the mind of God? Why do you think God seemingly changed His course of action after Moses’ intercession?
- Does the Bible ever contradict itself? Why or why not? What does it mean that “Scripture defends itself?” Read Numbers 23:19. If God never changes His mind, how do you reconcile that God changed His course of action following Moses’ intercession?
- How does God use our prayers to bring about His predestined plan? How can we pray according the will of God? How do we know if we are praying according to the will of God?
- Why is prayer more about God’s Kingdom, and less about our personal needs?

DISCUSS:

- Are there other examples in the Scripture where God changed His course of action because of prayer? If God’s will cannot be changed, then why should we pray?
- Why is it important to know the promises of God in His Word? Give some examples of the promises we can pray back to God?
- What are some spiritual benefits of prayer? How does prayer help us understand the character of God? How does prayer help us understand the sovereignty and providence of God?
- What did Jesus’ intercession for us look like? What are the parallels between the story of Moses’ intercession on Mt. Sinai and the intercession of Christ on Mt. Calvary?

PRAY:

Pray with a Kingdom mindset, understanding that God is using your prayers to bring about His perfect and predestined plan for your life.

RESPOND:

Study the promises of God in His Word. Be prepare to pray those promises back to God as you seek His perfect and pleasing plan for your life.