

BIBLICAL PRAYER (13)

QUESTION #4 – How important is prayer?

R. A. Torrey, D. L. Moody's friend, who Moody called to Chicago to head up Moody Bible Institute from 1889-1908, and a man who pastored churches in Ohio, Chicago, and Los Angeles, said there were eleven reasons why prayer was so important. We think it worthy to follow his basic outline, as we list thirteen reasons (Reuben A. Torrey, *How To Pray*, pp. 7-31):

Reason #1 - Because there is a Devil and prayer is the God-appointed means of resisting him.
Ephesians 6:11, 18

Reason #2 - Because prayer is God's method for us to obtain what we need from Him.
Matthew 7:7-11

Reason #3 - Because the apostles, whom God gave as a pattern to us, considered prayer to be the most important business of their lives. **Acts 6:4**

Reason #4 - Because prayer occupied a very prominent place and played a very important part in the earthly life of our Lord.

Reason #5 - Because prayer is the most important part of the present ministry of our Lord since He is now interceding for us. **Hebrews 7:25**

Reason #6 - Because prayer is the means God has appointed for our receiving mercy from him and of obtaining grace to help in time of need. **Hebrews 4:16**

Reason #7 - Because prayer is the means of obtaining the fullness of God's joy.
I John 1:4 / 5:14-15

Reason #8 - Because prayer with thanksgiving is the means of obtaining freedom from anxiety and, in anxiety's place, the peace that passes understanding. **Philippians 4:6-7;**
I Peter 5:7

Reason #9 - Because prayer is the method for obtaining the fullness of God's Spirit.
Ephesians 5:18-20

Reason #10 - Because prayer is the means by which we are to keep watchful and alert at Christ's return. **I Peter 4:7**

Reason #11 - Because prayer is used by God to promote our own spiritual growth.
Luke 22:40

Reason #12 - Because prayer can bring power to our work, even our evangelism.
Colossians 4:2-3; I Timothy 2:1-4

Reason #13 - Because prayer is that which will bring God's blessings to Christ's church.
I Thessalonians 5:17