





Isaiah 59:1-2

1 Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Introduction

A. We live in a changing world Daniel 12:4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

2 Timothy 3:7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Introduction

- **B.** Three things are constant, they remain the same
 - 1. God's power to save remains the same
 - 2. God's ability to hear and answer prayer remains the same
 - **3.** The destructiveness of sin remains the same

I. God's Power To Save Remains The Same "Behold the Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save"

A. A power that should be trusted Jeremiah 14:9 Why shouldest thou be as a man astonied, as a mighty man that cannot save? yet thou, O LORD, art in the midst of us, and we are called by thy name; leave us not.

I. God's Power To Save Remains The Same

- **B.** God is able to save from physical danger **Psalm 34:6-8**
- 6 This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.
- 7 The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.
- 8 O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

I. God's Power To Save Remains The Same

C. God is able to save the soul from death

- 1. He saved the thief on the cross
- 2. He saved Saul, changed his name, and turned him loose on the world
- Acts 17:6

And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

"Neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear"

- A. God heard the prayers of His people while they were slaves in Egypt
- **Exodus 3:7-8**
- 7 And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; 8 And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

B. God has given great promises of answered prayer
1. He invited Jeremiah to pray big and expect answers
Jeremiah 33:3
Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee
great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

B. God has given great promises of answered prayer (continued)

2. Jesus invited believers to ask and receive Matthew 7:7-8

7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:
8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

- C. The early church prayed and thousands came to Christ
 - **1. Before Pentecost**
- Acts 1:14
- These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

- C. The early church prayed and thousands came to Christ - continued
 - **2. After Pentecost**
- Acts 4:31-33
- 31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.
- 32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

C. The early church prayed and thousands came to Christ - continued

2. After Pentecost

Acts 4:31-33

33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

III. The Destructiveness Of Sin Remain The Same

"Your iniquities have separated between you and God"

A. The way we live affects our prayer life James 5:17-18

17 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.

18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

III. The Destructiveness Of Sin Remain The Same

B. Sin keeps our prayers from being answeredPsalm 66:18If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hearme:

III. The Destructiveness Of Sin Remain The Same

- **C.** The progression of sin will make prayer non-existent James 1:15
- Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.
- D. We cannot escape the consequences of sinNumbers 32:23But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against
- the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.

God Is The Same, But We Cannot Stay The Same