

Pray for the Lost

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I. Introduction.

II. Godly men prayed for unbelieving Israelites in the Bible. Not to do so was a sin against the Lord. (Numbers 11:1-2, Deuteronomy 14:19, I Samuel 12:23-24, Jeremiah 7, 14:10-11, Psalm 25:22, I Samuel 7, II Chronicles 30:18-19, Daniel 9:17-19, Acts 7, Romans 9:3, 10:1)

III. The priority of prayer is for the lost. Evangelistic prayer is compassionate intercession because of dire need out of thankfulness to God. (I Timothy 2:1)

IV. The scope of prayer is for all men.

A. Prayer for rulers was common among early Christians.

B. The church would be better advised to pray for the salvation of those in office.

C. Jesus even prayed for the lost. (Matthew 5:33-34)

V. The benefit of prayer is a national condition that is favorable to the advance of the gospel.

VI. Believers ought to pray for the lost because it is right, it is consistent with God's will, it is reflective of God's nature as one, there is only one mediator, Christ is the ransom for all men, and praying for the lost is our calling as witnesses. (II Peter 3:9, Acts 1:8)

Application questions:

1. Which Bible verses best defend the proposition that we are to pray for the lost?

2. What attitude is necessary when praying for the lost? Why?

3. What can you do to develop a more systematic approach to praying for the lost on a daily basis? Explain.
