

Paradox of Prayer - Change G-d's Mind?

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION	1
BIBLICAL OR RABBINICAL?.....	1
IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER.....	2
II. WHY PRAY?	3
DOES G-D NEED OUR PRAYERS?	3
THE EFFECT OF PRAYERS	4
III. CHANGING G-D'S WILL	5
ANSWERS.....	6
1. <i>Change in the Person:</i>	6
2. <i>Natural Consequence:</i>	7
3. <i>G-dly Plan:</i>	8
4. <i>Change in the 'Letters':</i>	9
5. <i>Will vs. Essence:</i>	9
6. <i>Irrational:</i>	10
" MAY IT BE YOUR WILL..."	10

Question

Does G-d need our prayers? Can our prayers change G-d's original plans?
And if G-d knows what is best for us – why do we pray in the first place?

I. Introduction

Biblical or Rabbinical?

Regarding the obligation to pray, there is an argument among the *Rishonim* as to whether the *Mitzvah* of prayer is a Biblical obligation or a rabbinical one.

