

Prayer to Go Lecture 8 Notes

Why Does God Answer Some Prayers No?

- I. Introduction
 - a. God many times tells us to wait with regard to our prayers.
 - b. He is saying no because there is something he wants to do in the waiting process.
- II. Body
 - a. Four reasons God says “no” to our prayers
 - i. There is sin in our lives.
 - ii. Praying selfish prayers
 - iii. God has a greater revelation of His glory in saying no.
 - iv. We are asking for something outside of God’s specific will.
 - b. Eleven Scriptures where God clearly said no to the prayers.
 - i. Num. 11.15 Moses asks to have his life taken.
 - ii. Deut. 3.24-25 Moses asks to go and see the promise land.
 - iii. I Sam. 14.37 King Saul asked for guidance and God did not give it to him.
 - iv. I Sam. 28.6-7 King Saul asks for help and guidance and God says no.
 - v. 2 Sam. 12.13-23 David prays for his son by Bathsheba to live and not die.
 - vi. I Kings 19.4 Elijah prayed that he might die.
 - vii. Jonah 4.3 Jonah asks God to take his life.
 - viii. Jer. 21.2 King Zedekiah prayed for help in defeating Nebuchanezzar.
 - ix. Mark 10.34-45 James and John ask to sit at the right hand of Jesus.
 - x. Matt. 26.39 Jesus prayer to not go to the cross
 - xi. 2 Cor. 12.7-10 Paul prays for a thorn to be removed.

- c. Reasons God said “No” to these prayers in the Bible
 - i. Sin in their lives-
 - 1. Num. 20.11: The people are crumbling and grumbling and Moses ignores God’s instruction so he also would not get to see the promise. Land. Because he had sinned he did not get to receive of the promise of the promise land.
 - 2. David sinned with another man’s wife and she became pregnant, as well as murdered her husband. His child is sick, but God lets him die. He said no to David’s prayer to let him live. 2 Sam. 12.13-20
 - 3. Zedekiah gets a “no” answer from God because of the sin of the people of Israel. Jer. 21.2
 - 4. According to I Tim. 4.1,2- In the later times there will be people in the church who are deceived and have so much sin they are blind to the truth.
 - ii. God knows that He has different plans or a different will from what we are asking.
 - 1. Moses, Elijah, and Jonah all asked God if they could die. But God said , “no.” They were praying outside of His will.
 - iii. God’s glory will be revealed in a greater way through something else.
 - 1. Jesus said, “Father, take this cup away from me.” But God said He would not take it away because of the greater glory that would result in Jesus’ sacrifice. Matt. 26.39
 - 2. Apostle Paul- He pleaded 3 times for God to remove “a messenger of Satan” from him. God said, “No, my grace will be sufficient for you. 2 Cor. 12.7-10
 - 3. There are times when God says no to your prayers, because he knows his glory will be revealed in a greater way.

- iv. Selfish prayers- prayers that are not for the kingdom or self centered.
 - 1. James and John asked to sit beside Jesus in heaven and Jesus said no. Mark 10.34-45
 - 2. If God answered every prayer we prayed that was selfish, we would act like a spoiled child.
- v. Scriptures about why God doesn't answer prayers.
 - 1. Matt 21.21-22 Pray, believing you will receive. God wants us to come to Him believing in faith that He will do whatever we ask of Him. Lack of faith can block our prayers. Faith pleases God.
 - 2. Ps. 66.18 If we have sin in my heart, The Lord will not hear.
 - 3. Pro. 1.28-30 They chose not to fear God or listen to his advice
 - 4. Jer. 11- They listened to false gods and God will not hear them.
 - 5. I Peter 3.7- Husbands should love your wives in a new way. Husbands not loving their wives in this way, may be blocking their answers to prayer.

III. Conclusion

- a. If you think that God is not answering a lot of your prayers, you should review the previous steps above.