

WHEN GOD DOESN'T ANSWER

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FIRST THINGS FIRST

- We are all going to get sick, etc.
- God sees from eternity. Death is not the end. Death is part of the journey.
- God is "tricking" us, to beg him, to plead pitifully. God is enlisting us, to do his will here on earth. The state of our heart reflects upon God. The state of our families. So God is working on us, to reflect on him. Or we can choose to reflect Lucifer (worship of self).
- Doesn't mean God doesn't love us, or that we aren't saved

EASY TO UNDERSTAND

SIN SEPARATES ME FROM GOD. SIN HINDERS MY PRAYERS

"We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will." –John 9:31

"If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened" (Psalm 66:18)

Yet this must be seen through the eyes of GRACE rather than WORKS. We cannot expect to be "GOOD ENOUGH" and "EARN IT." The goal is SPIRITUAL INTIMACY. Our values reflect God's values. We are ONE with God.

LACK OF FAITH

"And Jesus answered them, 'Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' it will happen.'" –Matthew 21:21

In what state of mind do we pray? Fear? Desperate? Jealousy? If you cannot be sure whether you pray in "faith," pray in hope(makes it simple), and pray in trust(submission)

NOT SO EASY TO UNDERSTAND

IT'S NOT THE PRAYER THAT IS WRONG, BUT THE ONE WHO PRAYS

Opposition to His Will

"And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him." –1 John 5:14-15

Our motives are of this world

"When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures." –James 4:3

You aren't listening or you aren't satisfied with his answer.

11He came unto his own, and his own received him not. 12But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1:1-13

QUITE HARD TO UNDERSTAND

Problems of Sovereignty

OUR PRAYER CANNOT ASK GOD TO ACT COUNTER TO HIS NATURE.

GOD WILL NOT FORCE ANYONE. SO DON'T ASK HIM TO...

"Today I am giving you a choice. You can choose life and success or death and disaster. I am commanding you to be loyal to the LORD, to live the way he has told you, and to obey his laws and teachings. You are about to cross the Jordan River and take the land that he is giving you. If you obey him, you will live and become successful and powerful" (Deuteronomy 30:15-16 CEV).

THY WILL BE DONE