

Does God Answer Our Prayers With Yes, No, Maybe, or Later?

From: In Defense of My Father:
Toward a Better Understanding of the Sovereignty of God

Taken from Chapter 7: Addressing Misconceptions

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Paul wrote that ALL the promises of God in Jesus are “Yes” and “Amen.” When we ask concerning His promises, His only response is, “Yes” (2 Cor. 1:20).

While it might take time for God to bring the miracle about because He is dealing with other persons or perhaps He is working in our hearts to help us believe, He doesn’t wait until “later” to answer.

When we ask according to His will, we can have confidence to say, “Amen,” to His promises knowing that He will grant our request (1 Jn. 5:14-15). He immediately goes to work on our behalf to give us what we ask according to His promises.

Note :

When we are seeking wisdom about what we should do, God still says, “Yes.” Yes, He will give you wisdom. His wisdom might be to not do a certain thing. He has promised to give wisdom when we ask, and he has promised to guide us by His Spirit, but His wisdom might be to not go in a certain direction, and we should be open to that. If it is wisdom we want or direction concerning a next step, He will show us. His plans are always the best.

That being said, God does give us the desires of our hearts—sometimes perhaps to discover that what we think we want isn’t what we really want.

An example in my own life is I asked the Lord if I could live in both California, my home state, and in Indiana where two of our three children lived and 8 our grandchildren. When I was talking to Him about this, I felt like He said, “I can do that for you,” and He did. But after two years of going back and forth and discovering that the weather in Indiana was difficult on our 70-year-old selves, we decided to move back to California permanently.

What I am saying is wisdom from God. God is happy to give us the desires of our hearts, to let us explore and discover. He wants us to be free and will even facilitate the exploration, or one might say, the discovery process. He might speak loudly and clearly to not go forward about something, but if you have peace to explore, remember He is with you always and is for you, not against you.

