

## How God Answers Prayer

**1** \_\_\_\_\_ **Answers** are seen in the release of Peter from the prison (Herod wanted to execute Peter) while the church prayed (Acts 12:5-11) or in the prayer of Elijah, which first shut up the heavens and then opened them, he prayed it wouldn't rain and it didn't and he prayed it would rain and it did. (James 5:17-18). The Psalmist rejoiced that God responded to his prayers (Psalm 116:1-6).

**2** \_\_\_\_\_ **Answers** might be illustrated by the appeal of millions of believers for the Lord Jesus to return (Revelation 22:20). The time is not yet ripe. Mary and Martha appealed to the Lord Jesus to hasten back and heal their brother, but He delayed until Lazarus died (John 11:3-6, 14-15). This provide occasion for him to work a greater miracle by raising him from the dead. Waiting on the Lord is often no easy-but it pays (Psalm 69:3, 37:7, 9, 34)

**3** \_\_\_\_\_ **Answers** are opportunities for God's best to replace our requests. The Lord had something better for Paul than removing the thorn in the flesh. It was His sustaining grace (2 Corinthians 12:7-9). The prayer of the Lord Jesus in Gethsemane was "Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will." Matthew 26:39. The Father's response resulted in the salvation of millions of lost men and women through the shed blood of His Son.

**4** \_\_\_\_\_ **Answers** are illustrated by Elijah's request that he might die (1Kings 19:4-9), uttered in a time of despair and weakness: he was strengthened and restored instead. The disciples suggested that fire be called down from heaven to consume a village of the Samaritans (the Samaritans were nont welcoming of Jesus), (Luke 9:51-54) but the Lord had come to save them, not destroy them.

**5** \_\_\_\_\_ **Answers** are seen in Israel's complaining request for a king (1 Samuel 8:1-18), which was a rejection of God, The King took a lot of their positions and enslaved them (The Israelites).

God told Hezekiah to put his house in order because his is going to die. Hezekiah prayed that he would not die and God gave him another 15 years to live. 2 Kings 20:1

Hezekiah's desire to postpone his death (2 Kings 20:1-6), which turned out into days of tragedy (2 Kings 20:12-19).

Hezekiah showed off his temple treasures to the Babylonians (2 Kings 20:15) who later came and stole it from him. (2 Kings 24:13)

Manasseh was born and became a wicked king. He worshiped other Gods, Sacrificed his own son, practiced sorcery. God punished the Israel people severely for Manasseh's wickedness. 2 Kings 21

The Israelites complained that the wanted meat to eat. God gave them poisonous quail and they ate it until it came out of their nostrils and made them sick. Numbers 11: 4-34

That it is possible for God to grant our requests and yet give "leanness of soul" ought to make us more desirous of being in His will when we pray (Psalms 106:15)

Conditions for Successful Pray: John 15:7, James 5:16-17, 1 John 5:14-15, John 14:13, Matthew 21:22

What does it mean to pray in Jesus' names?

Hindrances to Prayer: Proverbs 21:13, Matthew 6:14-15, Proverbs 28:9, James 1:6-7, Ezekiel 14:3, James 4:2-3, Malachi 1:8-9, 1 Peter 3:7