**God’s Will**

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“When do we finally accept that it is God’s will for us to just go on home?”

“Aren’t we supposed to pray, ‘If it is God’s will’ when we are praying for someone to be healed.”

“Death is the ultimate healing.”

“God will get the glory through my sickness and disease.”

These questions really bothered me. Each one of these questions or statements show a lack of understanding of God’s Word. These questions weren’t coming from young, baby Christians. These questions came from people that have been Christians for many years. It is so sad that a person can be a Christian for many, many years and still be a spiritual infant.

We, as Christians, are very good at learning “tradition.” There is a lot of tradition in the church, **a LOT**! Jesus was very clear when He said what man’s tradition does.

**Mark 7:13 (NKJV)**

“,,making the word of God of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

One big “tradition” in Christian churches is the belief that you have to pray over and over and over about a situation. For example, if a loved one is sick, we will ask people to pray and we will encourage them to keep praying for that person to be healed. The Bible never says we have to ask repeatedly. Why do we do that? Certainly it is not commanded in the Bible, **IF** we rightly divide the Word of Truth.

**2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)**
15  Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth**.

Hosea said that God’s people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.

**Hosea 4:6 (NLT)**

My people are being destroyed because they don't know me (My Word). Since you priests refuse to know me, I refuse to recognize you as my priests. Since you have forgotten the laws of your God, I will forget to bless your children.

God has freely given us His Word! Bibles are easy to find in this country and you can find any number of translations making it easier than ever for you to understand what God’s nature is like. Jesus came to show us the Father. When we see what Jesus did, we see what God will do.

When you preach the uncompromised Word of God, you are going to step on people’s traditions. I have suffered more persecution from other believers than I have from someone who is not a Christian.

A few years ago I prepared a lesson to teach in the Life Group that I lead. The Lord would not give me peace about teaching what I had prepared. I put together another lesson and the same thing happened again. Finally, the third time, I prepared a lesson showing that when we pray in faith, we do not have to keep asking God over and over. As I was teaching, one man in my class who has been involved with a huge worldwide ministry for many years, yelled from the back of the room, “You are saying I didn’t have enough faith when my son got leukemia!” I was shocked that he would say that. Later he sent an email to everyone in the class saying that I had said, “If you don’t believe what Jay teaches, you are ‘bad soil’ in the parable of the sower (Luke 8).” Of course I never said anything close to what he said. He and his wife left the class over this and he stirred up a lot of discord.

Just for the sake of this discussion, what is the truth about praying over and over?

**Mark 11:23-24 (KJV)**
23  For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.
24  Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive *them*, and ye shall have *them*.

Jesus said, if you believe what you say, you will have what you say. Now, don’t be like this other man and accuse me of saying things that Christ did not say. Read it for yourself.

Jesus also said, “Whatever you desire, at the moment you pray for it, not later and not after you have prayed fifteen thousand times, believe you receive it then and you WILL have it!

I would venture a guess that you are like many Christians who believe God has answered your prayer when you see what you prayed for, laying in your hands. That is NOT the God kind of faith.

What is faith? Most Christians are HOPING instead of having FAITH. Hope is necessary for faith. We first hope for something, then, understanding what God’s will is, we ask God for it and if we believe God answers our prayer. Then we receive the answer right then, not two weeks later, not when we see it or experience it with our five physical senses.

Most Christians know absolutely nothing about faith and their ministers are NOT teaching them the truth!

**Hebrews 11:1 (KJV)**
1  Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Faith is a TANGIBLE thing! Can you see that? Faith has SUBSTANCE! Faith is your EVIDENCE!

In the courts of Heaven, faith is counted for the real thing! “The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand,” Jesus said (Mt 3:2; 4:17; 10:7; Mk 1:15). That means the Kingdom of Heaven is right next to you. You can either choose to step into it and walk in the spirit or you can stay where you are in your ignorance and doubt and unbelief!

God tells us exactly how to live by faith, how to pray and receive by faith and so many other things. He tells us in His Word but how many believers ever really study God’s Word? The Word of God is what will set you free. It is the Word of Truth. God watches over His Word and makes sure that it does everything He says it will do.

**Isaiah 55:11 (KJV)**
11  So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.

**John 17:17 (KJV)**
17  Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

**Psalm 33:4 (KJV)**
4  For the word of the LORD *is* right; and all his works *are done* in truth.

**Proverbs 30:5 (KJV)**
5  Every word of God *is* pure: he *is* a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

So back to prayer. Jesus said that when we ask God, we receive **RIGHT THEN!** It does not matter if you see the answer or feel the answer with your five physical senses. You accept it by FAITH! Then you hold on to that answer until God “manifests” the answer. Faith **IS YOUR SUBSTANCE and faith IS YOUR EVIDENCE!**

**Matthew 6:7 (NLT)**

"When you pray, don't babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered **merely by repeating their words again and again**.

Is this how you pray? How many times do you think it will take until God hears your prayer? He hears mine the VERY FIRST time I pray and He does yours too. You just need to learn what He says and then live by His Word! Don’t let the lack of knowledge of God’s Word destroy your life. God has given you the answers to how to get by in this life. You can choose to walk in His Word or you can choose to walk in man’s traditions!

**Matthew 7:7-11 (KJV)**
7  Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:
8  For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
9  Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?
10  Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?
11  If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, **how much more** shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Notice that Jesus said to ask! When you ask, what did He say would happen? He said you would receive. Jesus said to seek and you WILL FIND! He said to knock and it would be opened! Did Jesus say that we have to keep asking and keep seeking and keep knocking? NO! Then He says that if you are an evil parent and you know how to give good things to your children, how much MORE is our God good to us? Can you see how Satan has taken God’s Word and twisted it into something it does not say?

The next obvious objection is the parable of the woman who kept hounding the judge and because she would not let up, he finally gave her justice. Again, if Christians would just read the Word of God, they would see that this falls right in line with what Jesus has said elsewhere.

**Luke 18:1-8 (NLT)**

One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should **always pray and never give up**. 2“There was a judge in a certain city,” he said, “who **neither feared God nor cared about people.** 3A widow of that city **came to him repeatedly**, saying, ‘Give me justice in this dispute with my enemy.’ 4The judge **ignored her for a while**, but finally he said to himself, ‘**I don’t fear God or care about people**, 5but this woman is driving me crazy. I’m going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!’”

6Then the Lord said, “**Learn a lesson** from this **unjust judge**. 7**Even he** rendered a just decision in the end. So don’t you think **God will surely give justice** to his chosen people who **cry out to him day and night**? **Will he keep putting them off?** 8I tell you, he will grant justice to them **quickly!** But when the Son of Man returns, **how many will he find on the earth who have faith**?”

Let’s look at verse one first. We should ALWAYS pray and NEVER give up like Jesus says but that means we pray about every situation. NOT to keep on praying for the same thing over and over. And it means we believe God answers our prayers WHEN we pray like Jesus said. Now, if you don’t believe God heard your prayer or that He did not answer your prayer, then I guess maybe you should pray again and again. But, if you believe God answers your prayer when you pray, you do **NOT need to keep on praying for the same thing over and over.** Are you praying in **DOUBT and UNBELIEF** or are you praying in **FAITH**?

Now, the rest of this parable. Preachers have told us that this judge is an example or a “type and shadow” of God. **That is totally untrue!** The judge was an **ungodly and unjust man**. He “neither feared God nor cared about people.” **This is not an example of our God!** The only reason he finally gave this lady justice is because she kept bugging him. Then Jesus tells us to “Learn a lesson from this **unjust judge**.” Are you ready to learn what Jesus is telling you? Here we go.

God WILL NOT ignore you when you cry out to him in the day or in the night! God does not sleep. He does not have only certain hours that you can go to him! God will grant you justice **“QUICKLY!”** In fact, God answers your prayers **IMMEDIATELY WHEN YOU PRAY!**

Too many Christians do NOT KNOW THIS! They are ignorant of God’s Word and because of their ignorance they are beat up by the devil day and night! Many of them die in their ignorance!

But what about praying, “If it is your will God?” Jesus came to show us the Father! **We can absolutely KNOW God’s nature**, just like we can with our earthly father! What is God’s will concerning healing? Well, look at Jesus. He healed **ALL that were SICK AND OPPRESSED BY THE DEVIL!** Jesus NEVER told anyone that if they would pray 300 times that he would heal them or their children.

Jesus forever answered the question of whether or not it was His will to heal.

**Matthew 8:2-3 (GW)**
2  A man with a serious skin disease came and bowed down in front of him. The man said to Jesus, “Sir, **if you're willing**, you can make me clean.”
3  Jesus reached out, touched him, and said, “**I'm willing**. So be clean!” Immediately, his skin disease went away, and he was clean.

If Jesus healed this man, He WILL heal you!

**Acts 10:34 (ASV)**
34  And Peter opened his mouth and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is **no respecter of persons:**

**Matthew 8:14-17 (KJV)**
14  And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever.
15  And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them.
16  When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with *his* word, and healed all that were sick:
17  That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare *our* sicknesses.

**Acts 10:38 (KJV)**
38  How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about **doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil**; for God was with him.

In the Bible, we only see a small portion of healings and exorcisms Jesus performed. Jesus NEVER refused to heal anyone, EVER!

Someone might say, “Well, Paul sought the Lord three times to be healed of his ‘thorn in the flesh’ and God said, ‘No’.” First of all, Paul’s “thorn in the flesh” was NOT a physical sickness or malady. Tradition, once again, says Paul had some kind of eye disease or sickness. This is another lie from Satan and shows how man’s tradition is not even close to God’s Word. Paul told us exactly what his thorn was. He was it was a “messenger (Greek – angelos) of Satan” given to him to buffet him and to keep him from becoming proud because of all of the revelations he had received from God.

**2 Corinthians 12:7-9 (KJV)**
7  And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a **thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan** to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.
8  For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.
9  And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Next time you hear your pastor say that Paul’s thorn in the flesh was an eye problem, ask him why he is teaching tradition instead of what God’s Word really says!

Now, when people think they have to pray and end their prayer with, “if it be your will.” They do not know what God’s will is because they have not read their Bible and seen what God’s will is. There may be some obscure thing you might not know what God’s will is but when you get to know Jesus, you KNOW Him! By knowing Jesus, you KNOW the Father! Praise God!

Because I KNOW my Father, I can almost ALWAYS tell you what His will is concerning anything!

What about those who believe God puts sickness on His children?

**Hebrews 12:6 (GW)**
6  The Lord disciplines everyone he loves. He severely disciplines everyone he accepts as his child.”

When does God discipline His children? It is when we willfully walk in rebellion or in iniquity. How does the Lord discipline or chasten us? Does He put cancer or other sickness and disease on you? NO! ABSOLUTELY NOT! Go back and read the scriptures that tell us God is a GOOD GOD! Read in Deuteronomy 28, the blessings and curses of the covenant and then realize that we live under an even better covenant than the one they had in Deuteronomy 28!

Would you EVER put a horrible disease on any of your children? I certainly would NOT! For anyone to think that God puts sickness and disease on His children, is to be led astray by Satan to believe the wrong things and to not rightly divide the Word of Truth.

**Romans 2:4 (GW)**
4  Do you have contempt for God, who is very kind to you, puts up with you, and deals patiently with you? Don't you realize that it is God's kindness that is trying to lead you to him and change the way you think and act?

The times in the Old Testament when God would allow sickness to fall on His people is when they turned from Him and it was as a last resort! The only time I can see where God will allow sickness and disease on a believer today is if that Christian has been turned over to Satan for the destruction of their flesh. This happens very rarely and is only done by a believer who knows and understands their authority in Christ. The hope for the end result is that that believer who has turned away from God, will come back to Him and once again, walk in divine health. If they do not repent and turn back to our Father, the hope is that their life will be snuffed out before they have time to do something that would cause them to lose their salvation.

**1 Corinthians 5:1-5 (KJV)**
1  It is reported commonly *that there is* fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.
2  And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.
3  For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, *concerning* him that hath so done this deed,
4  In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,
5  To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

You should never have to include “if it be Thy will” in your prayers! You should realize that it is NEVER God’s will for us to succumb to sickness and disease. When we die, we should not die from sickness. When our time comes, our spirit and soul will leave our body and go instantly, to be with the Lord. Our body will return to the dust.