

Unresolved Prayer

Luke 18:1-8

“Then Jesus told them a parable to show them they should always pray and not lose heart.”

Sometimes the answer to our prayers is clearly **“No. Request Denied.”**
Why?

1. Because we haven't asked (Jas 4:2b)
2. Because our prayers haven't met God's conditions.
 - a. We haven't asked in faith (Jas 1:5-8)
 - b. We are not asking for something that is in accordance with God's will (1John 5:14)
 - c. We are making selfish requests (Jas 4:3)
 - d. We are in sin (Psa 66:17-18)
 - e. We have a strained relationship (1 Pet 3:7)
3. Because of the sin of another (eg.: Moses [Exod 32:31-34]; Paul [Rom 9-11])
4. Because “request denied” is better for us (2 Cor 12:7-9)
5. Because “request denied” is better for God (1 Chron 17:4)

Sometimes the answer to our prayers is **“Wait. Request Delayed.”**
Why?

1. Because God wishes to oppose the proud so that their fall may be greater (e.g., Haman's fall in Esther)
2. Because God is waiting on us to dedicate the answer to prayer to Him (1 Sam 1:11)
3. Because the answer takes time (1 Kings 18:42-45)
4. Because God is waiting for our faith to grow
5. Because there is spiritual opposition to God's answers (Dan 10:12-13)
6. Because God is waiting on us to be in a position in which he can bless us (Isa 30:18)
7. Because God's timing is different than ours (Luke 18:1-8)

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