

Why the needs of many Christians can't be met by God

In the Church today there is a great deal of confusion over why the genuine needs, such as health, financial or relationship needs, of many seemingly upstanding Christians, are not being met by God. There are only the following two possible explanations for this:

No.1 That God's promises are Arbitrary: That God "can" meet these needs but for some unknown reason it may not be His "will" to. He seems arbitrary in meeting our needs; He appears to randomly bless some but not others or to bless only at certain times. - These rationalizations make God out to be both partial and changeable. Scripture utterly refutes these faith killing notions. The Bible always reveals God's unchanging nature and will.

Rom 2:11 **For there is no partiality with God** (He treats everyone of us the same)

Mal 3:6 **For I am the LORD, I do not change** ...(He is the same today as He was)

This false explanation of why needs are not met maligns the true character of God which is something the deceiving Devil always tries to do with every Christian. Sadly the Devil's success has caused many Christians to distance themselves from God to their great loss.

No. 2 That God needs certain things to be present (or absent) in us in order to bless us:

(A) God must have heart faith in the words He speaks to me, in order to meet my needs:

Mark 9:23 (Jesus) "**If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.**"

Mark 6:5-6 **He (Jesus) could do no mighty work there...because of their unbelief.**

Rom 4:16 **Therefore it is of faith that it can be by grace...(without faith there's no grace)**

Rom 5:2 **...We have access by faith into this grace...(there is no other access)**

God's grace is free and available to all, through faith. If God's blessings weren't by grace then they would be by our works which would return us to the Old Covenant which failed.

Rom 11:6 **if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works...(earned blessings) ESV**

(B) There are several widespread counterfeits of faith which I must avoid, to be blessed:

- **Faith is not mental assent** – to read a promise from the Bible, intellectually embrace it and even memorize it is often assumed to be faith. It is not. God's faith is imparted to our hearts. It comes when God's Spirit speaks His word and our hearts hear Him.

Rom 10:10 **For with the heart one believes...** (it can never be only with the head)

Rom 10:17 **Faith comes by hearing (and hearing with the heart) the word of God.**

Luke 10:21 (Jesus) **Father you have hidden these things from the intellectuals
TLB **and humanly wise and revealed them to (the hearts of) little children.****

Rom 8:6 **The mind of the flesh, which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit, is death (to God)... AMP 1 Cor 1:21 **God...made it impossible for people to know Him by their own wisdom...(by their intellects) TEV****

- Faith is not hoping or wishing – hope is always in the future, when I have heart faith because God has given me His word, I know right now that I have the thing I desire:
 Heb 11:1 **Now faith is the substance** (the certainty) **of things hoped for, the evidence** (the proof) **of things not seen** (faith has God’s word, it knows)
 Mar 11:24 (Jesus) **Whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them** (right now, because you know), **and you will have them.**
- Faith is not presuming – that God owes me this particular blessing because of other things I’ve done for Him or I’ve believed Him for. Blessings of faith can’t be earned.
 Rom 11:6 **...But if it is of works it is no longer grace...**God only blesses by grace
 Rom 4:16 **It is of faith, that it can be by grace...**(without faith there can’t be grace)
 Ps 19:13 **Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins...**
- Faith is not fatalism – that falsely assumes that regardless of how I act or believe God’s will for me is going to be done anyway. No it won’t. Most likely, if I will not believe the words God has spoken to me and I will not be led by God’s Spirit, then the will of God’s enemies will be done in my life. For I’m back in Satan’s domain.
 1 Jo 5:19 **...The whole world is under the control of the evil one** (Satan). NIV

(C) There are common sins that will cancel my faith and prevent God’s grace reaching me

Our faith, our very ability to believe God, is an ongoing living gift to us from God. When we sin we are unrighteous, cut off from God, and this gift of faith ceases to operate. This means we can’t believe God for any of His promises, until, we are willing to get right with Him. Faith only operates for those willing to be kept righteous, freed from sin, and in Christ.

- Heb 12:2 **...Jesus** (by His word and by His Spirit is), **the author** (the source) **and finisher** (and the increaser) **of our faith...** (To whom does He impart faith?)
 Rom 1:17 (Only) **The righteous shall live by faith** (they receive Christ’s faith to live by)
 Ps 5:12 **For You O Lord will bless the righteous...**(only they have faith to receive it)

Sins that cancel my faith in God to meet my needs, by making me unrighteous, include:

- Un-forgiveness in my heart over any of the wrongs others may have done to me.
- Not diligently seeking God to forgive my own sins, or deluded that He can’t forgive.
- Staying in disobedience to God (that’s what sin is) in one or more areas of my life.
- Choosing to believe and act on fear thoughts instead of bringing them into captivity.

(D) How I intend to use God’s blessings determines whether God can give them to me:

God’s intention in meeting my physical, material or relationships needs is that I use His blessings to serve Him and expand His Kingdom on earth. This includes participating in personal and group prayer, proclaiming the Gospel, feeding on His word and, led by His Spirit, becoming and then making others into disciples of Christ. These are “Good works”.

2 Cor 9:8 **And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound unto every good work.**

When we have specific needs that we want God to meet, God knows how we intend to use His blessings. If we don't genuinely intend to use the health, provision, protection or relationships He supplies, primarily for God's purposes, then we won't be given the faith to receive His grace. Why? Because if we won't use them for God then by default we will use them to serve God's three enemies – our own flesh, the world and the Devil. So to prevent the misuse of God's promises God limits them to those who are currently in Christ. His promises are only "Yes", meaning they are only available, to those who are in Christ.

2 Cor 1:20 **All the promises of God in Him (in Christ) are Yes, and in Him Amen...**

And what does it mean to be currently "in Christ"? It means to be lovingly obeying the leading of the Holy Spirit in all things, currently serving God with our lives and not serving our own selves. We are saved to serve – to serve God and "in Christ" to serve others.

Rom 8:1 **There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.**

If we refuse to live in Christ and be led by His Spirit then all the promises of God are not "Yes" but "No" to us. God won't give them to us. We may try to manufacture faith in the written word but since we aren't "in Christ" we won't have "the faith of Christ" to believe any of them. We've become hypocrites who profess Christianity but who do not intend to live the Christ life nor to bear much fruit for Him, by giving up our own independent lives.

John 15:5 (Jesus)...**He who abides in Me** (lives moment by moment in the Spirit), **and I in him** (through his ever increasing belief in My words), **bears much fruit...**

(E) My prayers for others also depend on the purpose for which His blessings will be used

God's intention that His blessings be used in His service also applies to Christians we pray for. If our own intent differs from this, or, we are well aware the Christian is living in rebellion to God, then our prayer will not be heard since it is not in accordance with God's will. Asking God to bless others so that they may consume those blessings on their own lusts (or ours), is asking amiss. Instead, we might pray that God use their lack to turn them back to Him, so that He may forgive them, restore them and supply all of their need.

James 4:3 **You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it** (or those you pray for may spend it) **on your** (or on their) **pleasures**.

Is God eager to meet our needs, to answer our prayers and bless us and others? Oh Yes

John 15:7 (Jesus) **If you abide** (live) **in Me**, **and My words abide** (live) **in you** (in your heart), **you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you**.

Rom 8:32 **He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?** (to use in His service)