

When Prayers Remain Unanswered

Some believers may find it disappointing and worrisome that God did not grant a particular request they made to Him. While some wonder if they did something wrong, others may find themselves blaming their prayer partners and spiritual leaders for their predicament. Some also blame the devil. To start with, others do not pray for us; they pray with us. The bulk of the job is ours. Then, let us take the time to re-evaluate our walk with God, instead of putting the blame on others and/or devil.

God loves to hear from us (Matthew 7:7-11, Proverbs 15:8); but there are reasons our prayers may remain unanswered. It could be that we are praying amiss (James 4:3), or perhaps we are not praying according to the will of God (1 John 5:14-15). It could be that He has a better plan for us than what we have come up with. It could also be that we are going through the trials He allowed to come our way to refine us, to attain greater heights and fulfil His purpose for our lives. Such trials are peculiar to the righteous by reason of our anointing and shall surely pass (Psalm 34:19). There may be other reasons beyond our own understanding - known to Him alone.

It is also important to continually re-evaluate our walk with God, to be sure that we are in right-standing with Him, as the reasons mentioned above may not always be the case. God may choose not to listen to a person's prayers because of sin - living in disobedience, neglecting to keep a pure heart, serving Him with unclean hands, harbouring unforgiveness, ingratitude, and more (Isaiah 59:1-2). If we look within and find that we have displeased Him in any way, there is Good News. He is rich in mercy, and faithful to forgive and to cleanse us of all unrighteousness (1 John 2:1-2, 1 John 1:9), if we would only do the needful, which is, to confess our sins to Him, and turn away from them. May we be guided.

Shalom!