

When God Says No



40 Days of Focused Prayer Series – Part 6

Hebrews 11:13; 32-40

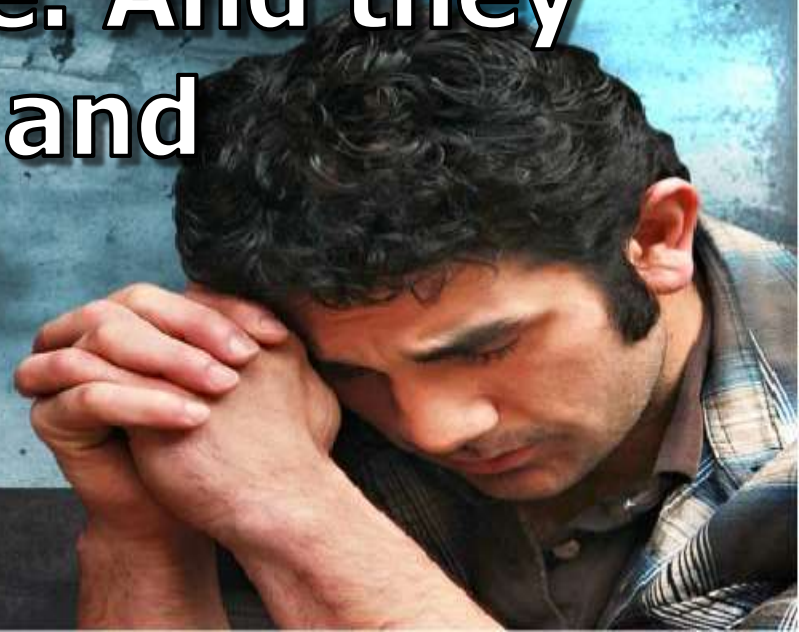
Anthony Grove Baptist Church

Dr. Dennis E. Bean

April 28, 2019

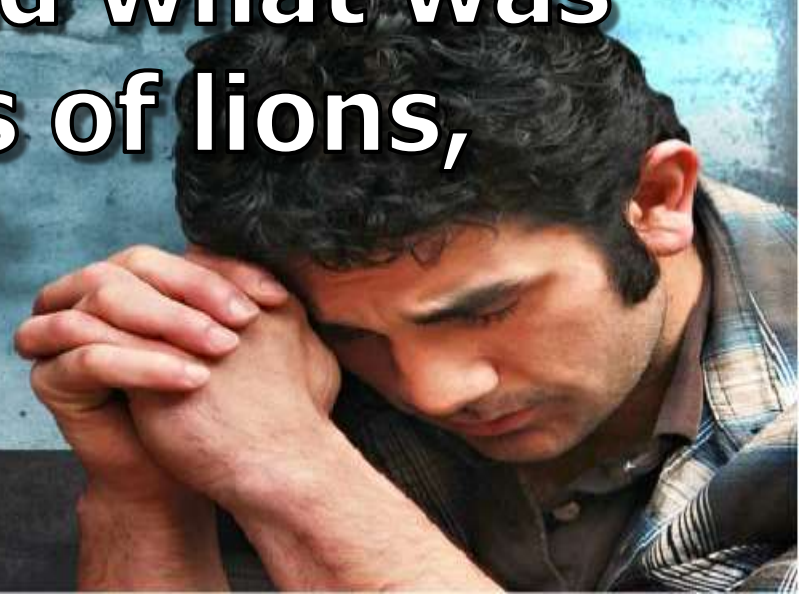
Hebrews 11:13

¹³ All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth.

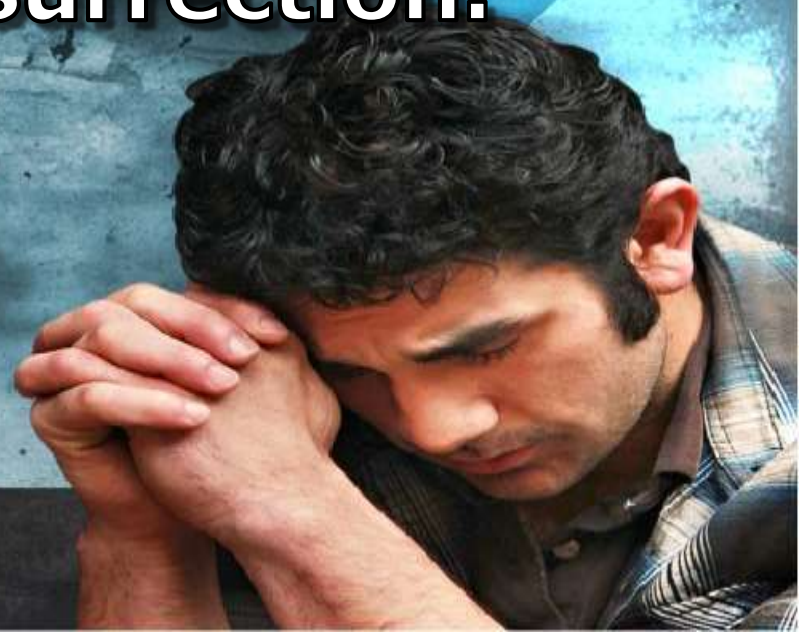


Hebrews 11:32-40

³² And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets,
³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions,



³⁴ quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. ³⁵ Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection.



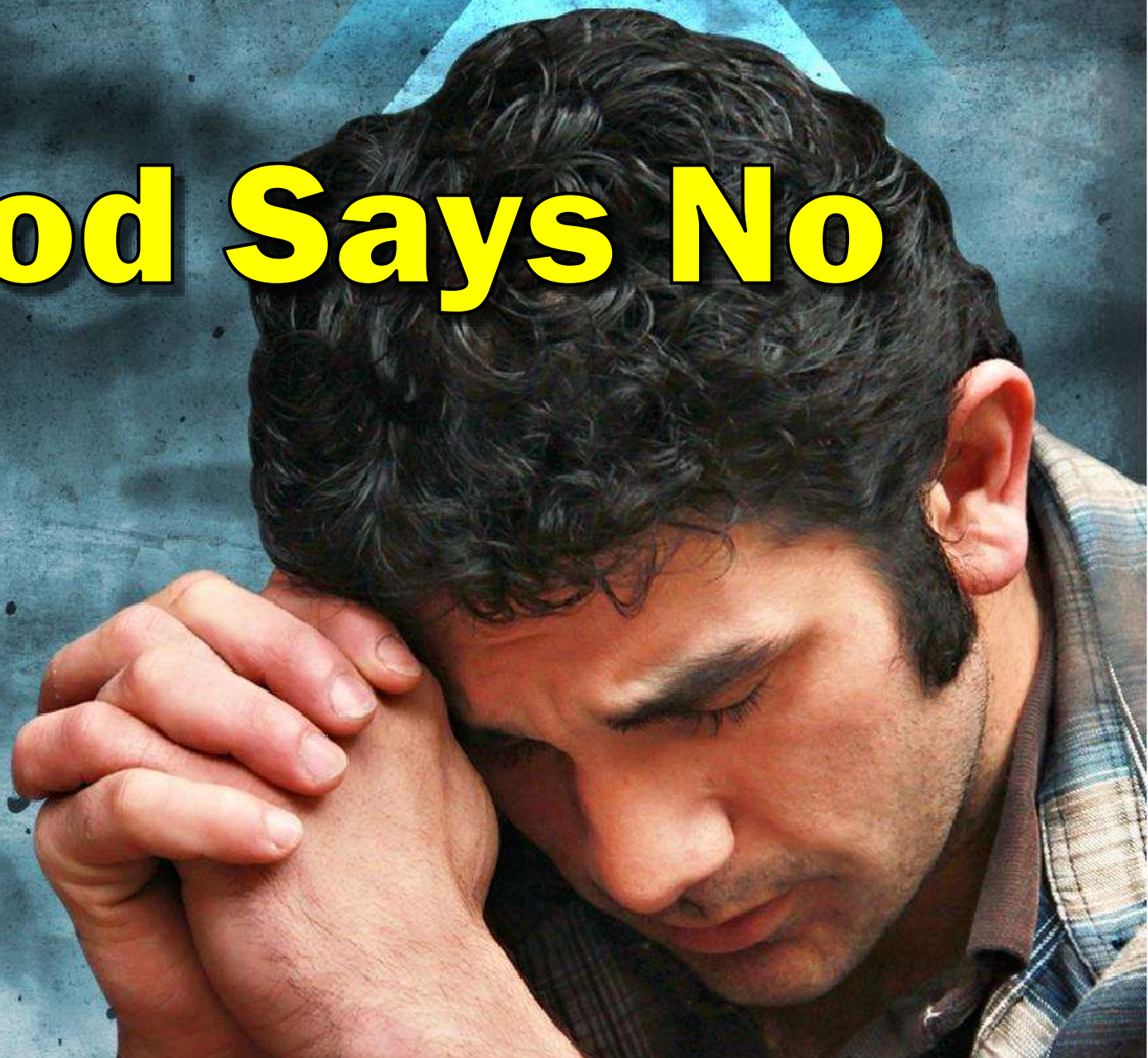
³⁶ Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. ³⁷ They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— ³⁸ the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.



³⁹ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. ⁴⁰ God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.-- (NIV)



When God Says No



3 Reasons God Doesn't Answer Every Prayer YES

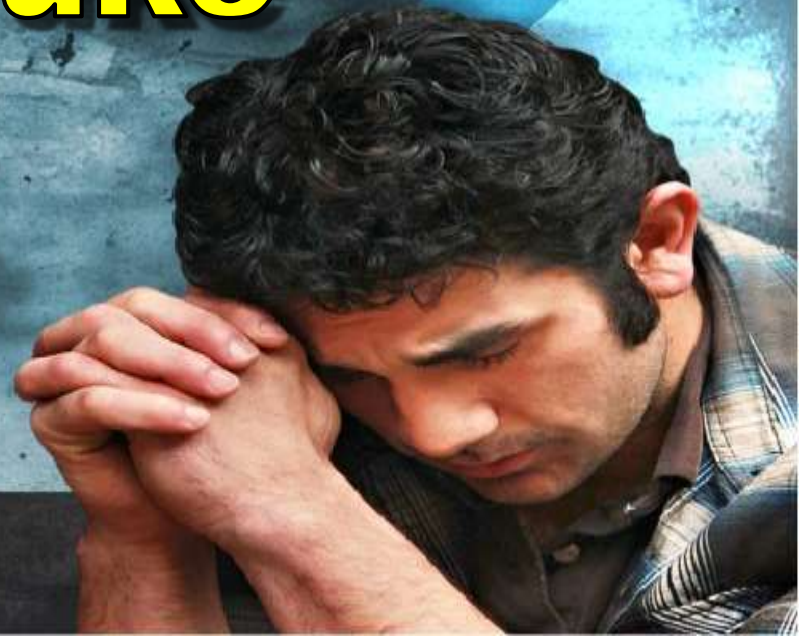
1. Some Prayers **Conflict** With Other's Prayers.

Example:

Bride vs. Farmer

Example:

Carolina vs. Duke



2. Some Prayers Would Require The Removal of Choice or Free will .

Example: **Make Someone Love You**



3. Sometimes We Don't Get A Yes Because We Aren't Meant to Live on the Earth Forever.

Hebrews 9:27²⁷ And just as it is
appointed for man to die once, and after
that comes judgment,-- (ESV)



Caution: Many Times A No Answer Is
Unexplainable.

Example: **Job**



1. Never Presume To Know Why Unless God Tells You.

Job 42:7⁷ After the LORD had finished speaking to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite: "I am angry with you and your two friends, for you have not spoken accurately about me, as my servant Job has.-- (NLT)



2. It Is Unwise To Explain What God Doesn't Explain.

Example: **Hurricane Katrina**



1 Peter 4:17

17 For the time has come for judgment, and it must begin with God's household. And if judgment begins with us, what terrible fate awaits those who have never obeyed God's Good News?-- (NLT)



3 of The Many Reasons God May Say No.

(Use Only For Yourself – Never Assume God's Will For Someone else)

God Says No When

1. He Has Bigger Perspective.

Hebrews 4:13¹³ He knows about everyone, everywhere. Everything about us is bare and wide open to the all-seeing eyes of our living God; nothing can be hidden from him . . . (TLB)



Proverbs 2:8

⁸ for God guards the course of the just
and protects the way of his faithful
ones.— (NIV)



**It doesn't mean you never land in the
frying pan, But it means He protects you
from burning up!**

Example:

Daniel

Example:

3 Hebrew Men

Example:

Paul



God Says No When
2. He Has A

Better Plan

Isaiah 55:8–9⁸ This plan of mine is not what you would work out, neither are my thoughts the same as yours! ⁹ . . . My ways higher than yours, (TLB)



Hebrews 11:39–40

³⁹ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised.
⁴⁰ God had planned something better (NIV)

God Has All Eternity **Fulfill His Promises.**



God Says No When
3. He Has A Greater Purpose .

**Psalm 57:2² I cry out to God Most High,
to God, who fulfills his purpose for me.**



1 Peter 1:7

⁷ The purpose of these troubles is to test your faith as fire tests how genuine gold is. Your faith is more precious than gold
.....-- (GW)



2 Corinthians 4:17-18

¹⁷ For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! ¹⁸ So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.-- (NLT)



What Should You DO When God Says No?

1. Trust That God Does Everything In Goodness & Love .

Psalm 25:10¹⁰ All the ways of the LORD are loving and faithful . . . (NIV)



If You Want To Be Happy In Life Accept These 3 Facts

A. Some Things You Won't **Understand** Until Heaven.

Ecclesiastes 11:5⁵ Just as you'll never understand the mystery of life forming in a pregnant woman, So you'll never understand the mystery at work in all that God does.-- (The Msg)

B. Some Things Won't **Change** Until Heaven.

C. Sometimes Your Suffering Is For **Others Benefits**.



2. When In Pain Pray As Jesus Prayed.

Mark 14:35–36³⁵ He went on a little farther and fell to the ground. He prayed that, if it were possible, the awful hour awaiting him might pass him by. ³⁶ “Abba, Father,” he cried out, “everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.”-- (NLT)



3. Expect God To Give His Grace To Handle His Answer

2 Corinthians 12:8–9⁸ Three times I prayed to the Lord about this and asked him to take it away.⁹ But his answer was: “My grace is all you need, for my power is greatest when you are weak. For when I am weak, then I am strong.-- (GNB)



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GOD
BLESS
YOU

Have A Great Week