

Things...

<A Psalm of David.> Hear my prayer, O LORD, give ear to my supplications: in thy faithfulness answer me, [and] in thy righteousness.

- Psalm 143:1 (KJV)

God always answers pray. I have found his most common answers are "Yes", "No", or "Not Yet". Our prayers must be pleasing to God. They must be according to Gods desires, God's timing, and must bring honor and glory to Him.

Let me share this little parable:

After several days of heavy rain, the waters in a local river started rising. A man woke up one morning to find his home surrounded by water. As the water crept up into his house, the man prayed that the Lord would save him and his home. After a while, there was a knock at the door. A neighbor had his fishing boat loaded with people but still had room for one more.

"Get in" cried the Neighbor.

"No" replied the man. "The Lord will rescue me". So the neighbor left with his boat load of people.

The waters continue to rise, so the man climbs onto the roof of his house. While there the man continues to pray for the Lord to save him and his home. Eventually another neighbor arrives in a canoe. "Hop in" cries the neighbor, to whom the man replies "No, the Lord will rescue me".

The water continues to get deeper. Now the man is standing on the chimney, The man continues to pray for the Lord to rescue him and his home. Eventually a helicopter comes by. The rescue worker calls out "I will drop a ladder to you! Climb up and I will fly you to safety!" The man again replies "No Thanks!. The Lord will save me!" No matter how much

the helicopter pilot begs him, the man refuses to get onboard, so eventually the helicopter leaves in search of others to rescue.

Eventually the man drowns, and finds himself standing before the Lord.

"Why didn't you rescue me?" the man asks the Lord.

"I sent two boats and a helicopter," replies the Lord. "What more did you want?"

"What about my house?"

"My child" the Lord responds, "If only you could have given up your house, I had so much more for you"

The man above prayed to be rescued. The Lord also desired for the man to be rescued, and thrice sent help, yet because the man could not give up his possessions (his house), he failed to see the Lord at work. Because he doesn't get the answer he wanted, he believed Lord did not answer his prayers.

For the lost (unsaved), this world is as close as they will come to Heaven. They cannot perceive giving up their possessions. For the saved, this world is as close to Hell as they will experience. We must remember that everything during our earthly stay is on loan from God. Don't allow possessions to hinder your service to the Lord. Nothing is truly ours. So, when we pray, remember to remain open to how the Lord may be answering your prayers. You may not get the answer you want, but the answer you need.