

WHY SHOULD GOD ANSWER YOUR PRAYERS?

I. THE GENERAL REASON WHY GOD SHOULD ANSWER OUR PRAYERS IS THE CROSS

Are you coming in Christ's righteousness and asking what He would ask in this situation? That is, are you praying in Jesus' name (Jn. 14:13-14)?

II. WE SHOULD ALSO GIVE TO GOD A SPECIFIC REASON TO ANSWER OUR PRAYERS

A. Because praying this way is modeled in Scripture

1. What *promise of God* is being given as a reason why He should answer? (See Ps. 84:11; 2 Cor. 9:8; Phil. 4:19.)
2. What *attribute of God* is being given as a reason why He should answer? (See Ps. 25:6-7 and 51:1.)
3. How is the *glory of God* being given as a reason why He should answer? (See Num. 14:11-20, 1 Kin. 18:36-37, 2 Kin. 19:19, Ps. 79:9, and Jn. 17:1.)
4. How is a wider *proclamation of the way of God* being given as a reason why He should answer? (See Ps. 67:1-2, 7.)
5. How is your *relationship to God* being given as a reason why He should answer? (See Ps. 119:94, 125, and Isa. 64:8-12.)
6. How is your *obedience to God* being given as a reason why He should answer? (See 2 Kin. 20:3, Ps. 119:22, 66, 121, and 176.)
7. How is your *future obedience* to God given as a reason why He should answer? (See Ps. 119:17, 33, 88, 134, 145, and 146.)
8. How is the *will of God* being given as a reason why He should answer? (See 1 Jn. 5:14-15.)

B. Because praying this way is valuable to us

1. Am I by these means trying to obligate or manipulate God?
2. Are these reasons helping me to pray with more faith?
3. Are these reasons helping me to pray with a better understanding of the character of God?
4. Are these reasons helping me to pray less selfishly? (See Jas. 4:3.)