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Prayers Are always Answered

Maybe this has happened to you. You have spent many hours in praying for success in an examination, and you fail. Maybe you have prayed feverently for the end of some sickness, and it still hangs on. Or maybe recently, maybe you have prayed for many days that your father will answer your appeal for fifty dollars for the Cotillion, and only twenty-five came.

You did not receive what you wanted for only one reason: it was not good for you, presuming that you prayed with perseverance and confident, two conditions on which God answers petitions. God does not overlook the smallest prayer. Your prayer has already obtained some favor for you, or it will in God's Time.

God is a good Father. He will never grant harmful favors to His children. Here are a few examples of Divine substitution taken from real life. A debutante prayed for many days for God to make her very beautiful on the night of her debut. God saw that this girl would have sinned by vanity, and so he led her to a hospital where she found nursing most satisfying. She asked for beauty, and God gave her beauty of character.

Another example of God answering prayer in His own way is that of the farmer who prayed every night for some railroad to lay a track through his farm so he would get enough money to return and live in leisure the rest of his life. No railroad came his way. God saw that laziness would result from leisure making the farmer prey of the devil, according to the old saying, "Idleness is the devil's workshop." What resulted was God's work. The farmer sent a specimen of his soil to the State laboratory for analysis, and he discovered he had ground that was ideal for cultivation. The farmer wanted money—he got a reasonable amount, and he got good soil besides.

Lack of perseverance in prayer explains why most of our prayers are not answered when we want them and in the manner we want them answered. Sinners are the worst offenders of the rule of perseverance. God will never make a substitution when the request is that of overcoming sin. When sinners become quitters at prayer, God withdraws his strengthening graces, lest the sinner fall into the further sin of thinking he conquered himself without God's help.

Never nurse a grudge against God, if he seems to be deaf to your earnest petitions. Look around a bit and you will find that He has given you some far greater blessing.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Father of Bill Murphy (Dil) (1st Anniv); James Cooney. (K11) Alfred White, '12; Edmund Puelzer, friend of Bill Pfaff. Sor. Six Spc. Intentions.

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