

His Will Be Done

So, you have to ask yourself, is this really God's will that we get terminally ill? Is He testing us in some way? Or is it just a product of how we have lived our lives and the things that we have done that have harmed this earthly body; or is it the polluted environment that we live in?

I think that it's just that. It's not our Father doing this to us; it's us doing this to us. Or maybe **them** doing this to us.

The meat that we eat is full of steroids and growth hormones to make the cattle fatter and weigh more when they are sold to the slaughter houses. They're full of antibiotics to keep them from becoming sick and as we eat that meat our body becomes immune to some of the same antibiotics and certain bacteria and infections can't be treated any longer because of it.

I read on the Fox News website that if we don't come up with some newer antibiotics soon we're all going to be in a real mess. And if that isn't a mess, it'll do until a real one gets here.

Although government regulations have forbidden a lot of the fertilizers and insecticides that's used on our crops there are still a lot of chemicals in our food supply that cannot be washed off at the kitchen sink.

Some of the fish in our streams and rivers are deformed from the chemical waste put there by industry, even though the government has stricter regulations against that kind of activity.

And it seems like every time you turn on the TV lately there is a story about people getting sick from eating chicken, salmonella; or e-coli bacteria, not just on the **outside** of our vegetables but **inside** the vegetable itself. Even peanuts are infected with this stuff all the time. Today it was **Blue Belle ice cream**.

No, our Father would have to work pretty hard to outdo the poisons that we put into our own body every day, thinking that we're eating wholesome food. You can't even be a vegetarian nowadays and stay healthy.

So when we get sick, sometimes terminally, we pray to our Father and wait for that miracle that never seems to come in time or at all. Why is that? Why doesn't that miracle come? Certainly we've prayed hard enough for it.

I think that the primary reason is that we have free will. We can decide what we put into this earthly body and what we don't. Certainly that holds true with cocaine, heroin, crack, crank and 8-balls. We know from the git-go that these substances can harm or kill us.

But, really, we have little control over beef, chicken and vegetables, even though the percentage of the population that gets sick from these tainted food products, is really quite small.

Even if we eat according to the Biblical food laws found in the Book of Deuteronomy, that food still makes us sick because of the way that it's raised, processed, harvested or delivered to us.

So, regardless of **HOW** we get sick, does our Father listen to us when we ask for a healing of some sort? Why doesn't He interact with us as He did with the Israelites and the heathen nations in the Old Testament?

Even though many of the books of the Old Testament contain primarily the history of the Israelites they also afford Him the opportunity to show us **types of people**, examples of people for our learning and understanding of how we should live and how we shouldn't.

They are examples of what happens to us when we follow His commandments and direction and when we don't. His interaction was vital as a teaching tool for later generations. Day to day interactions between Him and the chosen people was important for our learning. That's why it was written down by the scribes.

When all was said and done did it change how the Israelites lived their lives? No, they ended up crucifying our Lord Jesus Christ, their Savior in the flesh. But we learned from it. Hopefully.

Our Father didn't deal with humanity on a daily basis after that.

The first four books of the New Testament reveal the life and times of our Savior. Dying on the cross was His mission. The sacrificing of animals in the Old Testament didn't forgive our sins but the death of Christ on the cross would. All we had to do was have enough faith to believe that it could happen.

After His Ascension pretty much all physical communication with either our Father or our Lord stopped. In the Old Testament we had been taught how to live in a way that pleased our Father; who we could marry and who not; what to eat and what not. We were told to love and not to hate. We were told what eternity would be like if we loved Him and what the Lake of Fire was all about if we didn't.

Our Father loves all His children; He doesn't play favorites. When an infant or young child dies of some indescribable disease it could be that that soul was so precious to Him that He couldn't bear to see it go through this life so He took it immediately back to Paradise with Him.

After all, His plan for all souls to come through this life in an earthly body couldn't be compromised, not even for a little one. It's possible the soul in that little infant body **justified** itself in the first heaven/earth age and just didn't need to come through this earthly life.

And, if through that, He caused pain in our life, we had His love and mercy to fall back on; to carry us through. The heathen and unbelievers don't have that. They only have what's inside their own head and that is not sufficient to ease the pain of the loss.

After the death of Christ on the cross it may feel as though we have been abandoned because neither our Father nor our Lord have in-your-face interactions with us any longer. We can't see the cloud in the Holy of Holies in the Temple, representative of His presence among us and we can no longer place our finger in His side; we have to rely on our faith to get us through all the tough times in this life.

And sometimes our faith is a little lacking and we have to invent something in our daily life to help us believe again, like the face of our Lord on a grilled cheese sandwich or a back-lit window in a church with a cross in the middle of it or tears running down the face of a statue of the Virgin Mary.

But he clearly works wonders and miracles today. The child that fell 50' head first into an abandoned well and was rescued, suffering only broken bones in her face and a broken leg. The people that walk away from a commercial flight after a crash when surely all should have been taken.

Miracles are not granted upon request; however fervent the prayer. Faith takes its place. Love of our Lord and our Father is meant to heal the breaks in our lives.

In reality, His will be done and we cannot question that regardless of our earnestness.

Does our Lord hear our prayers at all?

Revelation 5:8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.

He not only hears our prayers, He keeps them forever in small golden vials. He won't answer all of our prayers; all we can do is believe that His will be done and leave it at that.

Oh yeah, and then there's this:

2nd Corinthians 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Strange as that may sound, this verse says that St. Paul would gladly rejoice in his illness knowing that the power of Christ was on him. If we believe in Him He will strengthen us through His grace but not heal us in this body.

The fact that your strength through Christ causes you to bear this sickness without complaint, without despair, without cursing **HIM**, shows others that your faith in Him triumphs all tragedy in this life and we gladly bear the burden of our infirmity for His grace.

The Lord needs us in our weakness and not in our strength because we can always show the world how strong our faith is when all is going well but when we hit a rough patch, through sickness or illness, that's when He can use us most because we give praise and glory to Him through it all.

2nd Corinthians 12:10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong. KJV

I take strength in my illness or when someone dresses me down for no reason. When I am without things and don't complain, when they call me a religious nut and when I am scared to death I will depend on Him for when I am weak, I am strong through His strength.

And there's this also:

1st Timothy 5:23 Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities. KJV

Grandma was right after all. A little wine on an upset stomach sometimes settles things down. A little wine after a very stressful day can relax you and lower your blood pressure.

When illness ends in the death of a loved one we should rejoice because that person is no longer bearing the sickness, they are no longer in this flesh and blood body that can get sick again, they are in a spiritual body in Paradise where there is no sickness or pain or death.

We have to have faith that that person was in good standing with our Father. If not, you will probably see them again during the Millennium and if you don't see them at all, know that our Father will judge all in His righteousness.

Judge me not in thine anger but in thy righteous judgment.