

“God Will...” Part 3

1. There's a children's Bible song that says, "*My God is so big... There's nothing my God cannot do.*"
 - a. My God is so big, So strong and so mighty, There's nothing my God cannot do. (repeat faster and faster).
2. I saw the lyrics to a song this week “My God Can do anything, He's got the power,
 - a. What is wrong with that picture? It is true isn't it? But what is missing? Is it because of the “Can do” that it seems to fall short of describing our God?
 - i. Muslims believe Allah (God) CAN do anything, but don't believe He will, because He is impersonal, uninterested, and distant from his creation. They don't believe Allah is personally interested in them, they certainly don't believe he loves them, in fact, he commands them to kill in his name and to die for him. .
 - b. **What about you?** Do you believe that God can but have trouble believing God will?
 - c. It boils down to not just knowing the nature of God but also believing that He really, really loves you. Just like the song, “My child I love you, I love you, I love you.”
 - i. Until you and I really, really believe that...our relationship with God will be simply a “God can” relationship, about potential and not about fulfillment.
 - ii. But when you begin to really grasp that your Father God loves you, that He sings over you with love, that He delights in you, and desires your best...you will begin to believe in what He says He will do.
3. **Personal Story:**
 - a. When I started working for Nabisco, I had to undergo 6 weeks of intensive training by spending approximately a week in each of the 6 departments in the bakery/plant. It meant that I had to spend a week in the mixing department, watching (and doing) mixing of 600 pound batches of flour and dough being prepared. A week in the baking department, where the dough was pressed out at high speed onto metal band that went through a 300 foot long, 500 degree oven in 3 to 5 minutes and came out the other end. A week in the packaging department, where we would squish all those cookies and crackers into boxes and bags. A week in the Sanitation department where we would learn how to keep critters from getting into the food. A week in the shipping department where I learned what happens to the packaged product as it left the plant. And...a week with the meanest, most foul mouthed department...the maintenance department. Every one of them had x-rated pictures on their tool boxes, talked in four letter words and because I asked questions about how the machinery worked, treated me like I was stupid. At the end of my training, each of the superintendents evaluated me and told the plant manager about my abilities. Was I ever shocked at the results! Most of them had good things to say about me, but one superintendent had nothing good to say. The superintendent of the maintenance department said I possessed NO MECHANICAL APTITUDE. I was flabbergasted! **In other words, He said I couldn't do the job!** What would be my fate? Would I move from trainee to foreman? Fortunately, the packaging superintendent had gotten to know me pretty well, and saw that I was very teachable. His vote got me in his department, where I flourished!
 - b. Have you ever had someone tell you that you couldn't do something? Have you ever found something you COULDN'T DO?
4. The Bible never talks about what God CAN DO. It also never describes God in terms of His ability or aptitude. God is so personal, that He is continuously telling us in His word what HE WILL DO.
 - a. But the bible does tell us that there are some things that God cannot do or will not do.
 - b. **You remember the schoolyard riddle...If God can do anything, can He will Himself not to exist?**
 - c. Why are there some things He cannot do?

- i. It is because some things are totally against His nature. And one thing God cannot do is to contradict Himself or act against His nature.

5. God cannot Lie

- a. Hebrews 6:18: “[I]t is impossible for God to lie.”
- b. Numbers 23:19: “*God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?*”
- c. 1 Samuel 15:29: “*And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He is not a man, that He should relent.*”
- d. Implications of this:
 - i. When God says something, we can count on it. We can claim His promises as “yes and amen” the bible says. God doesn’t lie. He keeps His word.
 - ii. What do you do when you are holding onto a promise of God to you and it isn’t happening yet? Does it mean God lied? No, because you already know that is an impossibility. The problem never is with God. We should always look within and see if there is something amiss in our relationship with God, or with other people, that may be acting as a barrier to the promises of God in our lives.

6. God cannot change.

- a. Malachi 3:6: “*For I am the Lord, I do not change.*”
- b. James 1:17-18: “*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.*”
- c. Implications of this:
 - i. God did certain things in the first century, like heal people, like use Christians to minister supernaturally to people to spread the gospel. And now we don’t see too much of that any more. Did God change?
 - ii. Some people think that God was “mean” in the Old Testament and “nice” in the New Testament. But that isn’t true. He was dealing with pagan cultures and creating a people to call His own. He hasn’t changed. He still hates sin and loves sinners. It is why He sent His Son.

7. God cannot Be Tempted.

- a. James 1:13 *Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.*
- b. Implications of this:
 - i. God is good, all the time. God is not the author of evil, even though He permits it to exist. God hates evil. It cost Him the life of His only begotten Son to defeat evil in such a way that He would maintain His holiness and yet punish sin.
 - ii. God does not send sickness. He doesn’t send it to teach us something. He uses everything, but He is not the author nor does he send sickness or death. These are repulsive things to God because they are the results of mankind’s fall into sin. And they were paid for at the cross. Death the final enemy will be swallowed up in victory when Jesus returns.

8. God cannot be mocked.

- a. Galatians 6:7 “*Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.*”
- b. Implications of this:
 - i. Do you think that you can “get away with sin?” It’s just a little sin?
 - ii. Just because the hammer doesn’t drop because you sin, doesn’t mean you aren’t paying the piper. As a Christian, you aren’t being punished for your sin, Jesus is. Ouch. And then, when you sin, you are still going to be disciplined. And most often, God uses the consequences of our sin as the discipline.

9. **God cannot save you apart from Christ.**

- a. Acts 4:12 *“And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”*
- b. Jesus said it very plainly, “I am the way, the truth, and the life *No man comes to the father except through me.*” John 14:6
- c. *“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”* John 3:18.
- d. He also cried out in the garden, anticipating the cross, the supreme sacrifice he would make for our sins, Matthew 26:39 *“My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will”* In other words, *“if there is another way to accomplish this without my going to the cross, let it be so...”* But there was no other way. The price had to be paid by God Himself.

10. **God cannot save you apart from your free will and choice.**

- a. *“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him who hears say, Come. And let him who is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the Water of Life freely.”* Revelation 22:17
- b. God is a gentleman. He will not force you to be forgiven or to spend eternity in heaven with Him. He will remove every obstacle in your path to come to Him...but you alone can open the door of your heart. The door to your heart only has a handle/doorknob on the inside. He knocks, but you must open.
- c. During the presidency of Andrew Jackson, George Wilson, a postal clerk, robbed a federal payroll from a train and in the process killed a guard. The court convicted him and sentenced him to hang. Because of public sentiment against capital punishment, however, a movement began to secure a presidential pardon for Wilson (first offense), and eventually Jackson intervened with a pardon. Amazingly, Wilson refused it. Since this had never happened before, the Supreme Court was asked to rule on whether someone could indeed refuse a presidential pardon. Chief Justice John Marshall handed down the court’s decision: "A pardon is a parchment whose only value must be determined by the receiver of the pardon. It has no value apart from that which the receiver gives to it. George Wilson has refused to accept the pardon. We cannot conceive why he would do so, but he has. Therefore, George Wilson must die." George Wilson, as punishment for his crime, was hanged. **Pardon, declared the Supreme Court, must not only be granted, it must be accepted.** - George Maronge, Jr., Birmingham, Alabama. Leadership, Vol. 12, no. 3.

11. What will you do with the choice God gives you? You know there is nothing He can’t do. You also know that He will do for you just about anything you need. But there is one barrier. You must first become His child. Will you accept His pardon? Will you open the door to your heart?

12. Let’s pray.

Matthew 16:19 Holman Christian Standard

“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth is already bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth is already loosed in heaven.””

I will give (Not, I have given...) It is future tense promise.

We don't bind anything in heaven, because that is where the ultimate reality is. But what we do is to bind upon the earth what is already bound in heaven, and loose as well. This is important because we play a role in APPLYING God's will upon the earthly reality.

Matthew 9:20-21 “Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. 21 She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed." 22 Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed from that moment.”

John 6:40 NIV

For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

John 6:44 NIV

"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 14:13 NIV

And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.

John 14:14 NIV

You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

2 Corinthians 6:18 NIV

"I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty

My God Can Do Anything

My God can do anything,

My God can do anything,

He's got the power,

He's got the power.

He's got the power,

He's got the power,

My God can do anything,

My God can do anything

Verse:

He healed the sick and He raised the dead,

5000 hungry souls He fed,

He can make a way out of no way,

And turn your darkness into day,

My God can do anything,

My God can do anything

Verse:

(Soloist) It makes no difference what's the problem,

My God is able, He's able to solve 'em,

There is no secret to what God can do,

What he's done for others, He will do it for you,

My God can do anything,

My God can do anything

(Choir) God's got the power,

Yes, he's got the power,

God's got the power,

Yes, he's got the power,

God's got the power,

Yes he's got the power, etc.,