

When God Says, "NO!"

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

1

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Remember:

- That God will do right. *Deuteronomy 32:4; Genesis 18:25*
- That God's ways are not ours. *Isaiah 55:8-9; Psalms 139:6*
- That prayer has a chief purpose. *Matthew 6:10; 26:42*
- That a "no" may be the beginning of "yes." *cf. Acts 19:21; 23:11; Acts 28:16*
- That God's laws prevail. *Matthew 6:11; 2 Thessalonians 3:10*

2

God Says, "NO!" When?

- Sin is in the heart. *Psalms 66:18; 1 Peter 3:12*
- One's attitude is unforgiving. *Mark 11:24-26*
- "Ye ask amiss" *James 4:1-3*
- We ask without faith. *James 1:5-7*
- Our family life is ungodly. *1 Peter 3:7*

3

Those To Whom God Said "NO"

- Moses. *Deuteronomy 3:23-26*
- Israel. *Deuteronomy 1:34-45*
- Paul. *2 Corinthians 12:7-10*

4

Paul Accepted God's "NO"

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

- But still he had the "infirmities."
- God's "NO" may avoid further calamities. Verse 7
- Did not mean woeful resignation. Verse 8; *cf. Luke 18:1-8*
- Glorified Christ. Verses 5, 9
- "My grace is sufficient." Verse 9
- "When I am weak, then am I strong." Verse 10

5

Lessons from those who accepted God's "NO"

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| ➤ Job | •Men may die and yet live in victory! |
| ➤ Stephen and James | •Provides hope that removes shame! |
| ➤ Paul | •Freedom from the fear of death! |

Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift!

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