

FA26. Praying with Faith & without Doubt.

We are to pray with faith and without doubt.

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

Key New Testament Scriptures

Mark 11:22-24

He responded, "Have the kind of trust ("faith" in the NKJ) that comes from God! Yes! I tell you that whoever does not doubt in his heart but trusts that what he says will happen can say to this mountain, 'Go and throw yourself into the sea!' and it will be done for him. Therefore, I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, trust that you are receiving it, and it will be yours.

James 1:6

But let him ask in trust ("faith" in the NKJ), doubting nothing; for the doubter is like a wave in the sea being tossed and driven by the wind.

Additional New Testament Scriptures

Matthew 9:20-22, 27-30, 21:21-22

John 15:7

Hebrews 10:22, 11:6

James 1:5-8, 5:14-16

Related New Testament Mitzvot

AA21 Not Being Lukewarm in Our Faith

AA31 Being Steadfast in Our Faith and Our Thinking

FA11 Petitioning God in Faith and with Thanksgiving

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

None

Comment

Derived from *Mitzvah G19*:

First, we should understand that "faith" and "trust" as it applies to God are identical, and merely a translator's choice of words. Some interpret Mark 11:23-24 as assuring us that if we strongly believe for anything and pray for it, God has obligated himself to make it happen. But that is not at all what the Scripture says or implies. The Scripture says "*whoever does not doubt in his heart but trusts that what he says will happen ..*" There is only one way for us to not doubt in our heart for something, and that is for God to have placed it there. Then, having recognized what God's will is, if we trust him and pray for it, it will happen.

God is not calling us to what is often called “positive confession,” because in “positive confession” the presumption is that we have the power to control God and cause him to do what we want him to do. Do we want a new car? The proponents of positive confession would say that all we must do is believe strongly enough for it and we will have it. Not so! God is calling us to first discern his will, and then trust him enough to ask him for it. If we properly hear God’s will and him in faith, we can be assured that it will come to pass.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

G19 Praying in Faith & Having Faith for That Which We Pray