

Dan 9:18

"O my God, incline Your ear and hear; open Your eyes and see our desolations, and the city which is called by Your name; for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies.

"God, I tithed 15% on Sunday, I let that person take the good parking space in the store, then let them ahead of me in line at the checkout counter. I went home and read Your word for an hour without even turning on the TV. But I'm not done yet God, because I even let someone yell at me, and I didn't even get mad. So, since I did all of this will you give me a _____?"

Does this sound kind of crazy? After all, who would pray for such a thing? The answer, both you and me. You see, we come to God and think that we did something great; therefore God has to bless us because of what we did. If that's the case, then shouldn't God take away every time you mess up?

"Now wait a minute, that wouldn't be fair."

It's just as fair as what you think you deserve because of what you did.

Try this next time. Try asking God for something, but not because you did something good, ***"for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds,"*** but rather out of God's goodness and great mercies. ***"But because of Your great mercies!"***

You may not get it, but then even if you did all those so-called good things, you wouldn't have gotten it anyway. But on the other hand, you may get it, whether you did all those good things or not. Remember it's because of God's great mercies. Not our righteous deeds, because we have none.

† ***Psalm 25:7 Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; According to Your mercy remember me, For Your goodness' sake, O LORD.***