**When God is Silent**

Yesterday I woke up at 3.30am, I was wide awake! I did not feel sleepy. So what should one do? I prayed. There was an answer that I needed from God and I was desperate for the answer. Should I do something or not – and time was running out. I needed clarity from God. After about two hours I fell asleep without an answer.

The next morning I prayed and God very graciously lead me to a passage in Acts where God then explains what I should do and the reason for it. I have my answer. Thank you Lord! But, God, why did you not answer me last night when I was praying? God then showed me that He had already given me the answer – through a prophet. A very dear friend of ours is a prophet and we recognise him as such. So God said to me that He did not have to give me an answer during the night because I already had the answer. The real problem was that I was not willing to receive a prophet’s reward.

There are many reasons why God does not answer us when we ask Him. We are told to ‘Ask and you will receive’ so I was asking and did not receive! Well, I had received but I was not willing to accept that that was God’s answer. I was lacking faith in what God had said through someone else.

We are told to test all things and as such we do need to test if what the prophet had said was right. However, we often do not understand what is going on until AFTER we have stepped out in faith. We need to act in faith on what we believe is correct and then God shows why it is correct.

God is so gracious to us, He repeats an answer when He has already made it clear what we should be doing.

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