

Cooperation, Part 2

Cooperation: two parties working together to achieve the same ends; ready compliance with requests or commands.

“God’s purposes for, or determination of, your destiny, is a result of His foreknowledge. Yet, His divine will and plan for your life is conditional. It is based upon your cooperation.”

Frank Demazio

“Character Every Leader Must Have”

God isn’t the only one offering you the opportunity to cooperate.

The World, The Flesh, and The Devil, all pressure us constantly to cooperate, often working together to make the pressure irresistible.

“Can two people walk together without agreeing on the direction?”

Amos 3:3 NLT

“Do not be unequally bound together with unbelievers [do not make mismatched alliances with them, inconsistent with your faith]. For what partnership can righteousness have with lawlessness? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? What harmony can there be between Christ and Belial (Satan)? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said: “I WILL DWELL AMONG THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE M Y PEOPLE. So COME OUT FROM AMONG UNBELIEVERS AND BE SEPARATE,” says the Lord, “AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; And I will graciously receive you and welcome you [with favor],

**And I will be a Father to you,
And you will be My sons and daughters,”
Says the Lord Almighty.”**

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 AMP

**1. “SHADRACH, MESHACH, and
ABEDNEGO replied, “O Nebuchadnezzar,
we do not need to defend ourselves before
you. If we are thrown into the blazing
furnace, the God whom we serve is able to
save us. He will rescue us from your power,
Your Majesty. But even if he doesn’t, we want
to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we
will never serve your gods or worship the
gold statue you have set up.””**

Daniel 3:16-18 NLT

**2. “Now when DANIEL knew that the
document was signed, he went into his house
(now in his roof chamber his windows were
open toward Jerusalem); he continued to get
down on his knees three times a day, praying
and giving thanks before his God, as he had
been doing previously.**

Then Daniel spoke to the king, “O king, live forever! My God has sent His angel and has shut the mouths of the lions so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also before you, O king, I have committed no crime.” Then the king was greatly pleased and ordered that Daniel be taken out of the den. So Daniel was taken out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in and relied on and trusted in his God.”

Daniel 6:10, 21-23 AMP

3. “So they had them brought back in before the council, and they commanded them to never teach the people or speak again using the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, “You can judge for yourselves—is it better to listen to you or to God? It’s impossible for us to stop speaking about all the things we’ve seen and heard!”

As soon as they were released from custody, Peter and John went to the other believers and explained all that had happened with the high priest and the elders. When the believers heard their report, they raised their voices in unity and prayed, “Lord Yahweh, you are the Lord of all! You created the universe—the earth, the sky, the sea, and everything that is in them. And you spoke by the Holy Spirit through your servant David, our forefather, saying: ‘How dare the nations plan a rebellion, ranting and raging against the Lord Most High? Their foolish plots are futile! Look at how the kings of the earth take their stand, with the rulers scheming and conspiring together against God and his anointed Messiah!’

So now, Lord, listen to their threats to harm us. Empower us, as your servants, to speak the word of God freely and courageously. Stretch out your hand of power through us to heal, and to move in signs and wonders by the name of your holy Son, Jesus!” At that

moment the earth shook beneath them, causing the building they were in to tremble. Each one of them was filled with the Holy Spirit, and they proclaimed the word of God with unrestrained boldness.”

Acts 4:18-20, 23-26, 29-31 TPT

NOTICE:

-cooperation is only refused where the Word of God is being violated

-there is no manifestation of rebellion or insubordination

-there is no disrespect for authority

-there is no appeal to individual rights, not even the right to life

-there is total focus on God, and His will, and nothing about changing ungodly laws and removing ungodly rulers

-The spirit in which we refuse to cooperate is vitally important. Trusting God with the consequences.