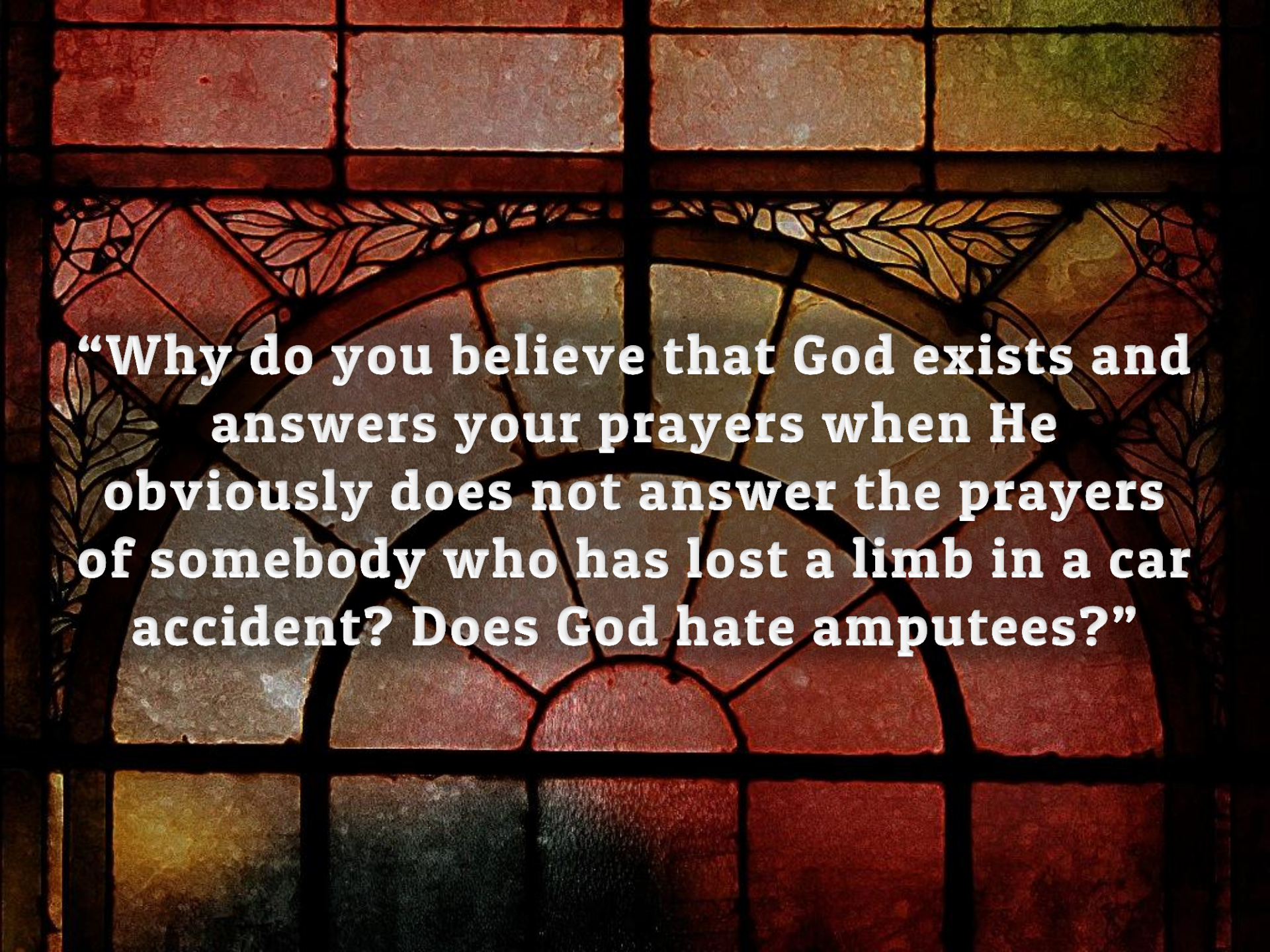


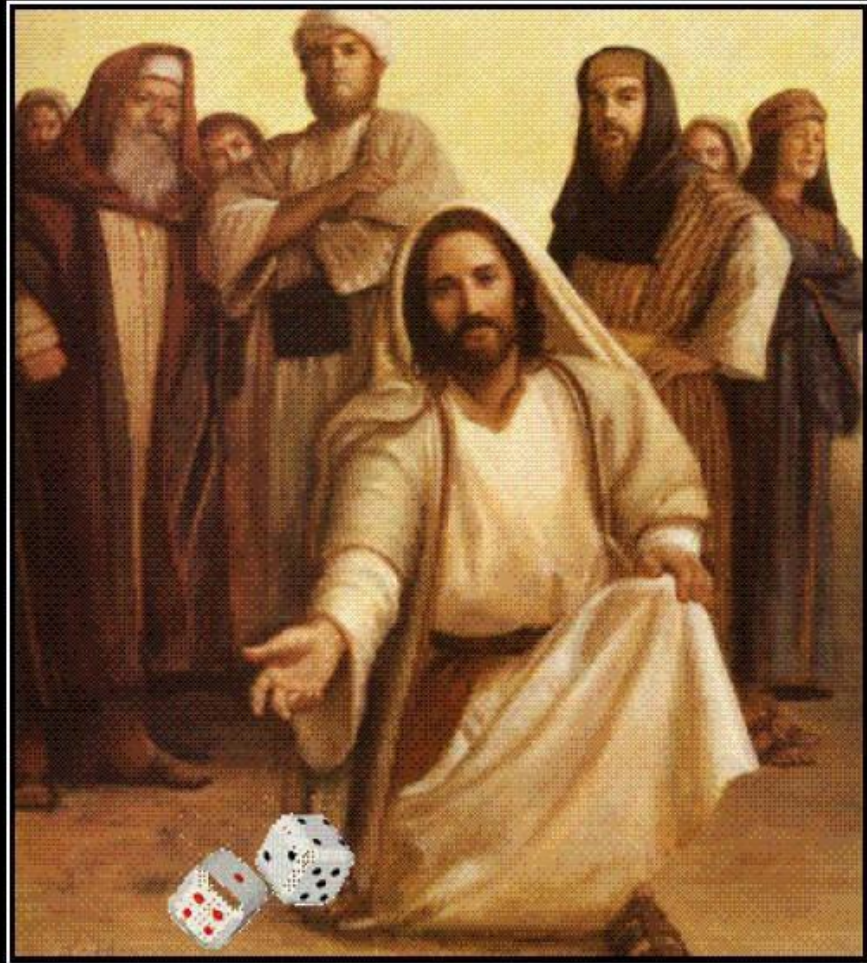
A stained glass window with a central arched section. The window is composed of various colored glass panes in shades of red, orange, yellow, and green, separated by dark leaded glass lines. The central arch is filled with a pattern of smaller, lighter-colored panes. The overall design is intricate and traditional.

UNANSWERED PRAYERS

A stained glass window with a central arched panel. The window is composed of various colored glass panes in shades of red, orange, yellow, and green, separated by dark leaded glass lines. The central arch contains a decorative border of leaves and a central panel with text.

“Why do you believe that God exists and answers your prayers when He obviously does not answer the prayers of somebody who has lost a limb in a car accident? Does God hate amputees?”

Does
Prayer
Even
Work?



PRAYER

Like chronic gambling, you never talk about your losses...

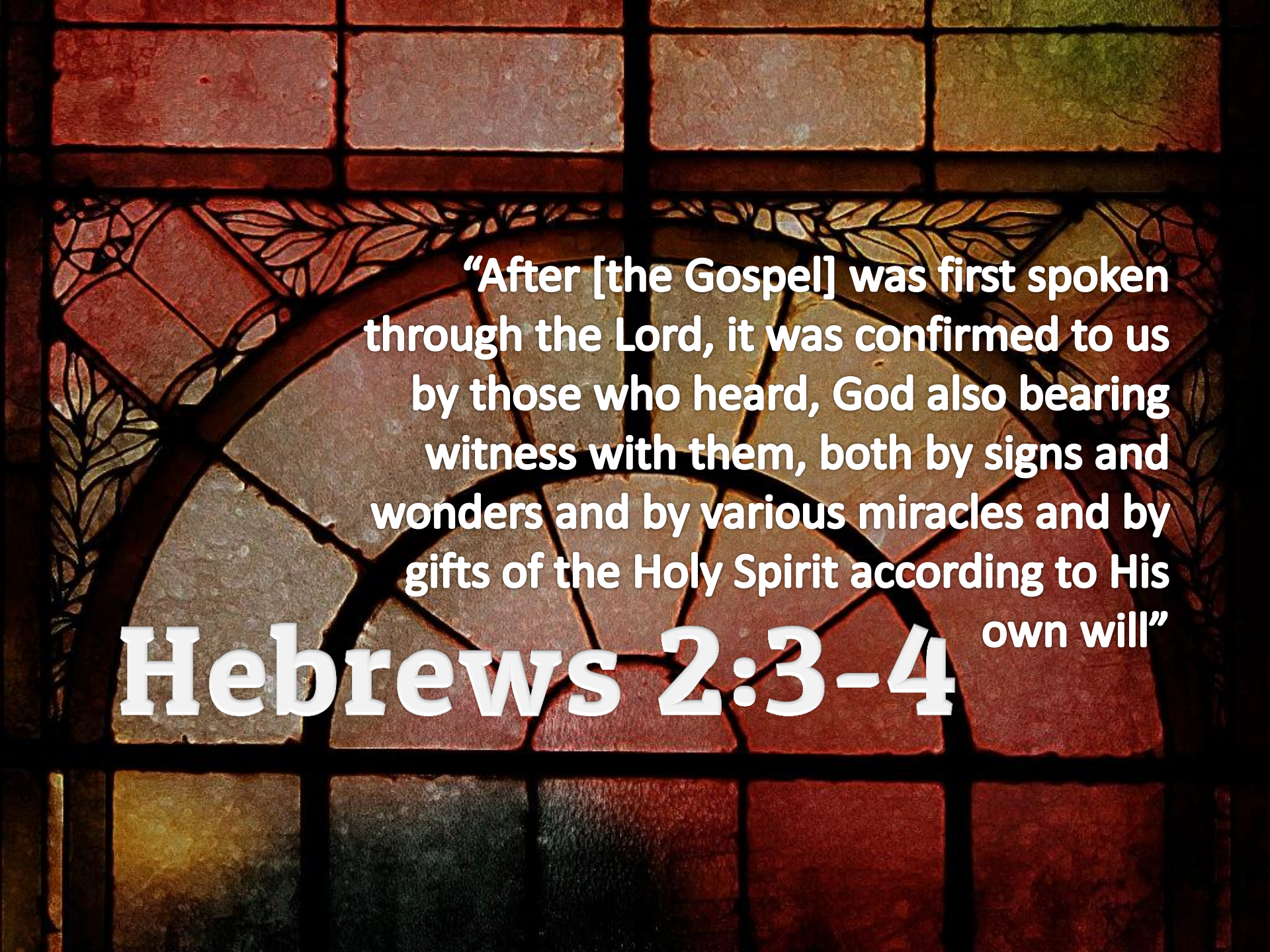
Just Empty Promises?

- “If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer” (Matthew 21:21).
- “If you ask anything in my name, I will do it” (John 14:14).
- “Ask, and it will be given you” (Matthew 7:7).
- “Nothing will be impossible to you” (Matthew 17:20).
- “Believe that you have received it, and it will be yours” (Mark 11:24).



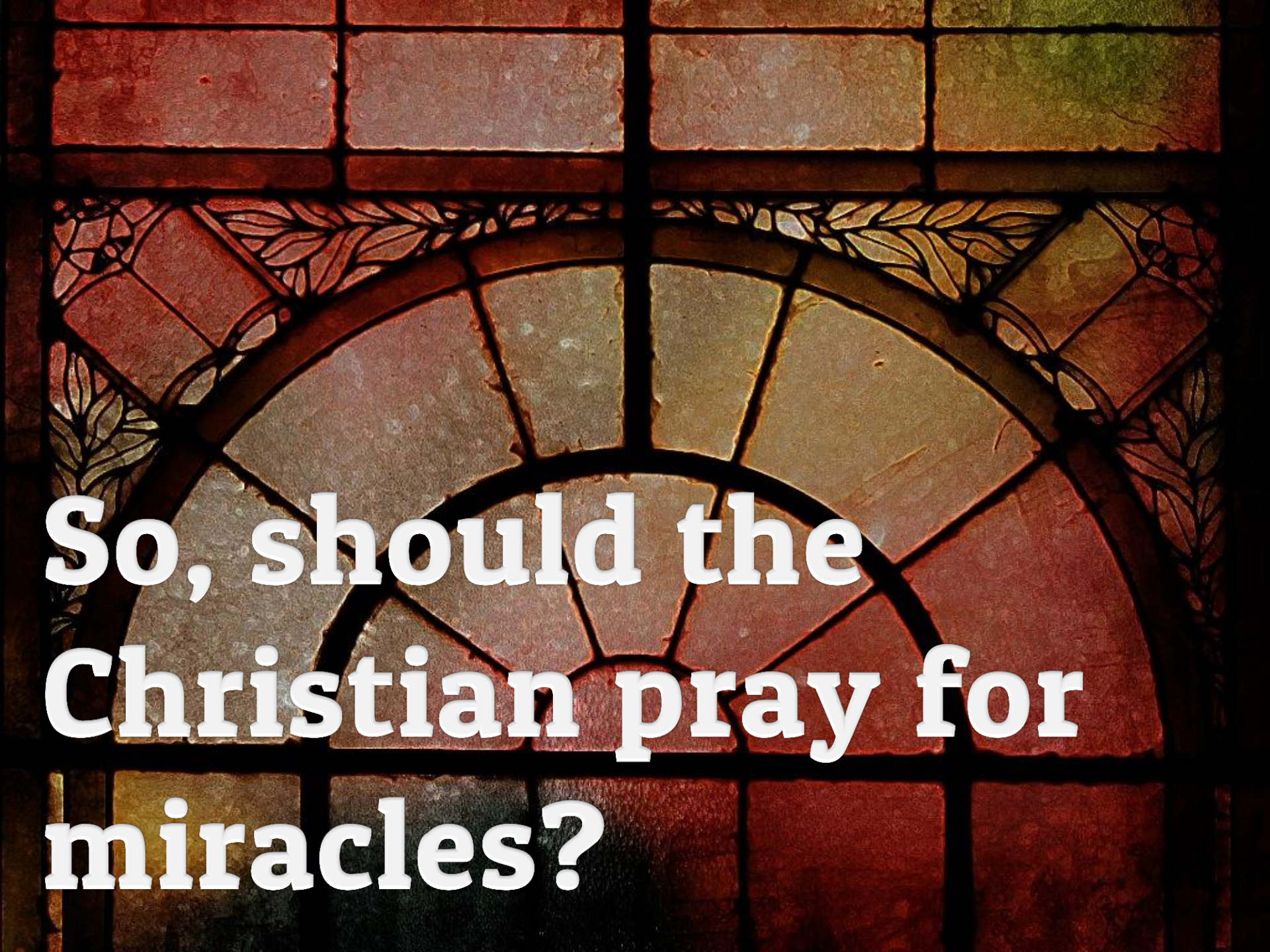
**God does not
grant every
wish...**

**Luke 9:54, Matthew 10, John 17:20-21,
John 13:9-10, Matthew 20:20-23**



“After [the Gospel] was first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, God also bearing witness with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will”

Hebrews 2:3-4

A stained glass window with a central arched section. The window is composed of various colored glass panes in shades of red, brown, and green. The central arch is filled with a pattern of leaf-like designs. The text "So, should the Christian pray for miracles?" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the window.

**So, should the
Christian pray for
miracles?**

“Lord, if you had been here...”

- John 11:1-46
- The primary purpose of the miracle was to glorify God and establish belief in Jesus’ legitimacy (11:4, 15, 25-26, 47-48).
- “Lord, if you had been here...” The very fact that we are not God should stop us instantly from judging Him when He does something in His own way, in His own time (Isaiah 55:8-9). This includes occasions when He “delays”, as in this story.



The Matter Of Free Will

- Is it God's fault that people suffer? Does He enjoy it?
- Why doesn't a truly loving God intervene at every catastrophe, or give us whatever we want? Of course, our standard is different than His (Romans 3:23).
- Without suffering, would we have a desire for something better? Our goal is eternal life, not carnal life (Phil. 3:13-14, 2 Cor. 4:16-5:8)



**How has our free
will hurt God?**

