

The Self limitation of God Jer. 44:4.

Matt.19:26

God is omnipotent, which is to say, He is all powerful and can do anything and all things. But God chooses not to do certain things. He limits Himself. What are some things that He limits Himself from doing?

Can we limit God? How?

We cannot change who He is, nor should we want to.

One of our purposes in life is to get to know Him. As we do, our relationship deepens. He is our Father and we are to be His children.

Jer. 44:4

God pleads with man to do His will. God works hard at getting people to do it. He uses human messengers to encourage people to do what He wants them to do.

The message that He gave His prophets was repent. It is still the message today.

v.5 Is God limited that He has to plead with us? Is it possible that we can stand in the way of God's will for our lives?

In any man made religion, men live in fear of god because he can do good or he can do evil, he is an arbitrary god. Christianity is based on a relationship, God uses His power according to His character. God's purpose and plan for our lives is revealed through the Bible and it is worked out through Christian love. It was His great love for us that caused Jesus to limited himself when He went to the cross. He allowed Himself to be killed in order to restore the fellowship between God and us. **Matt.26:54**

God is limiting Himself for our sake. **Mark 12:1-12** God is doing everything right but His creation is not responding properly **Isaiah 5:1-4**. God is trying to get man to move in a certain way/direction but they refuse **Matt. 23:37**.

Under certain conditions it is possible for man to limit God in His purpose for our lives even though His will is the absolute best.

Why would God limit himself the way He does? The world says there is no God, or He doesn't care and that is why things are the way they are. Genesis tells us that He created and sustains the world. He is calling us to look beyond what we see and experience and to trust Him. In order to get where we want to go we need to trust God no matter what happens. **Is. 26:4** If we are weak in our faith, we are easily blown about by any new teaching that comes along. God's plan is for everyone to become His children. Everything He does is with the purpose of drawing us into His family. He created us with the ability to surrender to His will and since the fall of Adam and Eve, He has been pleading with us to do just that. We are like children running through His house messing everything up and not paying attention to His rules; rules that are in place for our safety. Rather than making us robots He wants us to work with Him. Christianity is not a bunch of rules and regulations that we have to keep. We simply have to do what God wants us to. As we do that we will establish a good name/ reputation for Him so that others will look to Him and want to become His children **Matt. 5:16**. True religion is a matter of give and take. God offers us His forgiveness and we gladly take it, in return we need to give ourselves to Him, he will accept nothing less that all of us.

2 Peter 3:8-9 MSG. God is limiting Himself so that we will have time to change and see things His way. He is calling us to passionate patience; perseverance in trusting Him.

Though bad things are happening, we choose to look up and keep our eyes focused on Him.

To trust him when it seems foolish to, to be obedient to Him whether it is convenient or not; is how we participate with him.

We need faith in order to obey God **Heb. 11:6**. We lose faith if we focus on what is going on around us in the natural **Ps. 27:13**. Faith prevents us from becoming hardhearted and cynical. It prevents us from becoming discouraged with the slow growth of goodness in the world. Sometimes it seems like nothing good is happening.

We just need to obey and let God worry about the productivity **Luke 15:10**.

God calls us to simply live by faith in Him and in doing that we will fulfill His purpose to become His children and spend eternity with Him. It's an active life of trust and obedience. Jesus is coming back so by faith let us continue to hope for what we do not see and with passionate patience await His coming.