

The Word of Deliverance

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All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the King James Version. Italics for emphasis are ours.

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INTRODUCTION

“Be not afraid, only believe” (Mark 5:36).

Can you imagine the fear that comes with isolation? In Mark 5, Jesus dealt with three situations that caused people to be isolated: a man with an unclean spirit, a ruler in the synagogue whose daughter was dying, and a woman with an issue of blood. He had healed the demoniac and was on His way to Jairus’ home, when the woman touched Him.

She had been ostracized by her community, excommunicated by her church, and divorced by her husband because of her disease. Then, as Jesus walked through the crowd, she touched the hem of His garment. Virtue went out of Him, and the woman was healed.

“And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague” (Mark 5:34).

Right after that scene, the news came that Jairus’ daughter, a young girl twelve years of age,

had died. People in the crowd mocked Jesus when he said she was only sleeping, but He had said to her father, “Be not afraid, only believe.”

If we were really honest about it, many things in our lives bring fear, or at least certain kinds of fear. Whether it’s the fevered brow of a little baby, or the news that somebody has cancer, or word that somebody was just in a serious accident—whatever it is, there are many reasons in this world to be afraid. Yet, as we find over and over in the Scriptures, and as we will see it in this booklet, the One who is love casts out fear, and He has a word for us:

“Be not afraid, only believe.”

Chapter One

BE NOT AFRAID, ONLY BELIEVE

There is a bona fide fear that is not sinful because of our human frailty. Then there is a fear that comes because we do not believe. The fear that comes upon us when we hear something is not a sinful type of fear. It is very normal, and by God's grace it will not last long if we look at Jesus Christ. That is when the words from the lips of Jesus Christ are so beautiful: "Be not afraid, only believe."

The potential of God's people to have Him work in their lives is indescribable. We are down here on this earth, and we see everything under the sun, terrible things, going on consistently, day and night. Some of us do not like to turn on the news anymore because of what we see—the latest fire that killed somebody, the latest crime or murder, or whatever is going on. But here are the words of Jesus Christ: "Be not afraid, only believe."

I want you to see this today. I want you to think of it and let the Spirit of God minister to you. If God Almighty spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, "how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" (Romans 8:32). That's what Paul said: Will He not with Him freely, freely give us all things?

The Beauty of Holiness

In Song of Solomon is a very beautiful verse. The bride is now married to the bridegroom, and in chapter 2 verse 10, he called her "my fair one." Again, in verse 13, he called her "my fair one." He talks about her teeth ("like flocks"), in chapter 4 verse 2, because that speaks of being able to masticate and assimilate the Word of God. The flocks are selective about what they eat. They are being fed on Mount Gilead (Jeremiah 50:19 and Micah 7:14), and this speaks so beautifully of being fed by the Word of God. He talks about her hair, in chapter 4 verse 1, which stands for separation (Numbers 6) and a covering for the woman (1 Corinthians 11:15). Because her soul is right before God, she is under a divine covering through obedience in the soul.

In Song of Solomon 4:8, the Word of God talks about the view from the top of Mount Hermon,

Shenir, and Amana. This is an analogy of Satan's defeat and God's victory over him through the manifestation of resurrection. Amana speaks of integrity in doctrine. Shenir speaks of the whole armor of God. So, with integrity of doctrine and the whole armor of God, we are looking down from our position in the Finished Work, hid with Christ in God, seated at the right hand of the Father (Colossians 3:3, Ephesians 2:6). There were lions' dens in that mountain, and there will always be Satan's lions, as Psalm 91:13 teaches, wherever we are in Christ.

So this is a picture of the bride actually being seated with Christ, hid with Christ, but still living below on this earth where the roaring lion seeketh whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8).

You Are Perfect

But in the midst of Song of Solomon 4:7, the Bridegroom, who we know is Jesus, said something very beautiful. He said, "Thou art all fair, my love; there is no spot in thee." What did He mean?

I want you to learn this Finished Work in every degree you possibly can. Not just our sins were imputed onto Jesus, but everything about our old sin nature was placed upon Him on the Cross. This is what Jesus says about you. According to 1 Cor-

inthians 1:27, God has chosen “the foolish things of the world to confound the wise...the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty.” God has chosen it to be that way.

He goes on to say that the base things and things that are despised, God has chosen—the things that are not to bring to nothing, or to render powerless, the things that are: “That no flesh should glory in his presence” (1 Corinthians 1:29).

Then He said, “But of him are ye [chosen] in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

“That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord” (1 Corinthians 1:30-31).

Chapter Two

HE HAS MADE US WHOLE

“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him” (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Think about this! Consider it as you meditate on God’s personal words to you in your soul.

Number one: You are the righteousness of God.

Number two: You have been made the righteousness of God.

Number three: There is no spot in you.

Number four: The King’s daughter is all glorious within, she has clothing that has been made with gold (Psalm 45:13).

Read what the Bible says in Jeremiah 23:6b and 33:16b, and really consider it: “and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.”

I know I have an old sin nature, and I know that there are times of struggling. But thank God

today, we have been made the righteousness of God.

“But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who is made unto us wisdom,”—the application of the Finished Work—“and righteousness,”—imputed to us through Calvary when we believed—“and sanctification,”—set apart forever, once and for all (Hebrews 10:14)—“and redemption” (1 Corinthians 1:30). There it is: wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption.

By the grace of Almighty God, you get in your car in the morning and go to work and go home at night, and you are the righteousness of God. I don't care how wicked you feel. I don't care how many mistakes you might make going through a process of growing. You are the righteousness of God! This is the most beautiful thing, because in Romans 7:17, “Now then it is no more I that do [the thing that I hate], but sin that dwells in me.” And again in Romans 7:20, “...it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.”

One of the most fascinating, illuminating verses that God could give His children is that when I sin—and God forbid that I do—yet “it is no more I.” Why? Because I am in Lebanon with Christ, which means, as we read in Song of Solomon 4:8, I am seated above in heavenly places,

hid with Christ in God. It is because I'm seated on Amana, the integrity of truth in the Finished Work. It is because God has given me Shenir, the whole armor of God. And though there are lions and serpents in that region, God has protected me with the whole armor of Almighty God.

The Now Principle

As you think of this, realize that because you are the righteousness of God and the wisdom of God; and because you are here in that state of being, just think of what happens now. This is why God says in Proverbs 5:7, "Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth."

And we say, "I'm going to talk to you, Jesus, and I want You to hear me now. Lord, I want You to know that I'll pay my vows in the presence of Your people, and I'll do that now," (Psalm 116:14,18). That means I'll be present at church time. I will worship with the worshippers, and I'll sing with the singers. I'll pray with those that pray. I'll be there to edify.

And then we begin to see what Jesus is saying. He says, "I want you to realize that when you die, that I am the resurrection and the life right now, and he who believes in Me, though he were

dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever lives and believes in Me shall never, ever, ever, die" (John 11:26).

He said, "I want you to know that I take the soul out of your body and take you right up to heaven in the 'now' principle. I do it now. I don't wait for the resurrection of your body. I do it now."

Then He said, "I want you to know that because you are saved, "there is therefore now no condemnation" (Romans 8:1). "I want you to know that now there is no condemnation!"

Then we think of this verse in 2 Corinthians 6:1-2, "We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain....behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

Now is the day of deliverance.

Jesus is saying, "I want you to know that I love you now. I want you to know that I want to help you now. I want you to know you don't need to fear now. I want you to know that you can simply believe in Me now. I want you to know that I am present to deliver you now (Jeremiah 1:8). I want you to know that I'm filled with love and compassion for you now. I want you to know that today is My day, and I want to deliver you."

And the Psalmist said, "I wish that You would

give me prosperity now.” That’s what he said! “Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity” (Psalm 118:25).

A Prayer

People are asking God for something right now, and we say to the Lord, “I want You to reverse some things providentially, just as You have done for others in this place, Lord. I am Your child. I am Your daughter. I am Your son, and I want something to happen now. I don’t mean to be offensive, but I love You. So would You deliver me now? You said, ‘Now is the accepted time. Now is the day of salvation.’ So would You please, Father, do it now?”

When God says, “There is no spot in you,” that is because not only were your sins imputed to Jesus Christ, but He became sin for you, though He knew no sin, that you might be made the righteousness of God in Him, (2 Corinthians 5:21).

So now I understand it! That is why when I sin now, it is no longer “I” because the sin was imputed to Jesus. Now when I sin—and God forbid, God forbid!—but now when I sin it is no longer I but sin that dwells in me (Romans 7:20), because it is not I but Christ!

“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live;

yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me” (Galatians 2:20).

Chapter Three

IN DARKNESS, WALK IN THE LIGHT

The Christian must realize that he is walking in the light of divine power, of divine resurrection, of divine love, and of divine expectation. Jesus said to those parents in Mark 5, "I know your daughter is dead, but don't you be afraid." He said, "Only believe. Will you just believe? Be not afraid. Only believe."

Psalm 62:5 says "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him." Then in verse 11 we read that power belongs to God. I've gone to God many times feeling not well and yet other times feeling wonderful. But I always come and say, "God, You are going to do it again. You are going to do it now. You are going to be the blessing right now. I'm going to let You do it. Now is my day of deliverance. Now is my day of healing. Now is my day to be touched of God—Right now.

One of the great things that we see in the Bible over and over again is that when Jesus was on earth, He wanted to help people right then and right there. He wants us to relate to Him that way right now, as I believe that you do, as He enlarges those steps (Psalm 18:36) so that your feet do not slip. And remember, don't be afraid of the pain. Don't be afraid. Don't be afraid of the projections that come. Don't be afraid of the times when the enemy attacks you. Be not afraid. Be not afraid! Jesus Christ is inside of you to love you. Only believe.

“But,” you say, “He hasn't done it in the past.”

Be not afraid. Get to know the Christ of resurrection now—the One that Satan despises, the One that Satan hates. Satan fears Him desperately because Satan is now defeated.

On the Resurrection Side

In Song of Solomon 6, the bride is on the resurrection side, seated in heavenly places. She is hid with Christ in God. And with that being true, she had such an amazing privilege and opportunity.

Consider what Romans 6:22 says: “But now being made free from sin....” we have become servants of God. We have been delivered, and we

bring forth fruit unto holiness, unto our righteous God. The Bible says in Romans 3:21 that now we have the righteousness of God, and we have been delivered from the law—right now.

The Bible says, “Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy [Spirit]” (Romans 15:13). Paul was saying, “I want Him to give you the joy, the love, and the happiness now.”

The Bible says, in 1 Corinthians 2:12, we have not received the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God. Do you know when we received it? We have it right now. The Bible says we have the mind of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16) right now. The Word isn't up in heaven or down below that we have to go down and get it, but it is near, even in our mouths, and in our hearts. It is the word of faith, and we can confess it right now (Romans 10:6-9).

CONCLUSION

Oh, God loves your confession. God loves it when you confess His favor and His love, when you confess your trust in Him publicly before the demons, and the unseen atmosphere. There is an invisible war raging in our midst, but we are protected and covered by the love of God.

And God loves it when you begin to make that divine confession of His nature and character now. Don't accept exhaustion and tiredness all the time. Build yourself up in the energy and power of divine expectation. Be quickened in your mortal body. Put those shoulders back. Begin to inhale, believe God in faith, and express that faith right now.

Be not afraid—only believe! Now is the day of our deliverance.