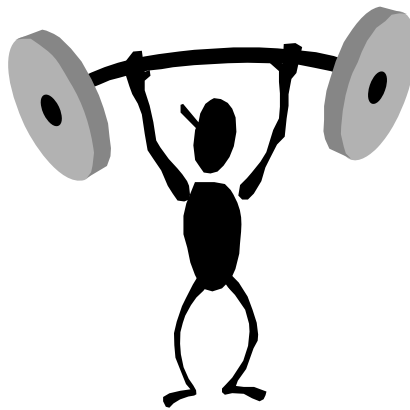


Be Strong in The Lord

Part 2



OUR DAILY BREAD

Junior Edition

II-II-07



SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW:

God is perfect. He is Holy. We are all sinners. *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*

(Romans 3:23a KJB)

None of us could ever make ourselves perfect or holy to be accepted by God. But God loves us all so much, that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to go to the cross and pay the penalty for our sins IN FULL, ONCE and FOR ALL. Jesus died and rose again. Because of the Lord Jesus Christ, God can now make us holy and acceptable to Himself. *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.* (1 Peter 3:18 KJB)

Jesus Christ is our ONLY WAY to God and heaven.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

(John 14:6 KJB)

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. (Acts 16:31 KJB)

Without Jesus Christ, you can NEVER be accepted by God or go to heaven. When you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God makes you His child. When you leave this world, you will spend all of eternity with Him! *But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.* (John 1:12 KJB) While you are still here on earth, learn His beautiful Word. Believe it and obey it, so you can enjoy all God has done for you.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.

(Colossians 3:16a KJB)

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.”

Ephesians 6:10

That is the topic we've been studying these past few weeks. We've been learning how GOD can give us

POWER & STRENGTH

to

RESIST TEMPTATIONS!

(including drugs & alcohol which our students asked about)

We've learned that God has given EVERY BELIEVER - even the very WEAKEST of us - the RIGHT & ABILITY to use HIS POWER & STRENGTH to do the right thing whenever we are tempted to do the wrong thing! Our job is just to LEARN what God's sources of POWER & HOW to use them, BELIEVE what God says & then USE them! Remember! God's formula for POWER is:



God's Word + Faith = POWER!!!!!!

And by the way read Romans 10:17 to see how you can have faith.”

So that is where we will continue today.

God says that:

“A wise man *is* strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.”

Proverbs 24:5 KJB



But we must remember that wisdom is not just KNOWING the RIGHT & GOOD things that God tells us! Wisdom is USING those RIGHT & GOOD things that God tells us in the RIGHT & GOOD WAY that God tells us & at the RIGHT &

GOOD TIME that God tells us! That is HOW we increase STRENGTH! That is HOW we can have POWER. That is WHY a wise man is STRONG! Here is just a QUICK review.

First we learned that the ONLY way to even have the RIGHT & PRIVILEGE to have God's power & strength in us is to 1st believe in Jesus as your Savior. At that very instant, God gives you the POWER - THE RIGHT to become His child. God's Word tells us this:



"But as many as received him (Jesus), to them gave he power (the right, the authority) to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name."

John 1:12 KJB

And then, only through JESUS does God give you everything you need to be STRONG in the LORD!

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19 KJB

Only through JESUS do you have the RIGHT or the POWER to ask God to help you to use His power & be strong. This is what Jesus says:

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

John 14:6 KJB

Next we learned that God has written down EVERYTHING He wants His children to know in the Bible. We learned that in today's world the ONLY BIBLE that has EVERY WORD that God wants us to know in it is the



King James Bible of 1611

All the other bibles that are around today have changed or added or subtracted things from God's Word. And listen to what God says about THAT:

"For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, god shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book."

Revelation 22:18-19 KJB

To me that sounds like God takes His Word VERY SERIOUSLY! He does NOT want any one RE-WRITING IT or CORRECTING IT in ANY WAY! We are to READ it, BELIEVE it, OBEY it! Read what God says about that here:

"Every word of God *is* pure he *is* a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar."

Proverbs 30:5-6 KJB

So let's continue READING what God says about how WE can have HIS POWER to RESIST TEMP-

TATION! Did you notice the underlined word in Proverbs 30? It is the word

SHIELD.

What is a SHIELD?

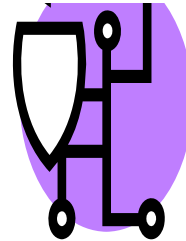
It is something used to PROTECT us!

Actually, it is something we can use to HIDE BEHIND to protect us from harm. A shield is part of a whole set of protective equipment called ARMOR. And that word ARMOR brings us back to where we left off in Ephesians 6:1-18 learning about the ARMOUR of God! God has given ALL His children special INVISIBLE ARMOR to give them POWER & PROTECTION against Satan & ALL his temptations - which certainly includes drugs & alcohol too! It is God's armor that protects our MINDS & our SOULS to help us THINK & ACT like Jesus would in every situation! But God's special armor not only PROTECTS us, it GIVES US POWER & STRENGTH to resist Satan's temptations! God tells us CLEARLY that we can be STRONG IN THE LORD by PUTTING ON ALL THE ARMOR GOD SUPPLIES!

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles (tricks, temptations) of the devil." Ephesians 6:10-11 KJB

And as we read about all the parts of this special AR-

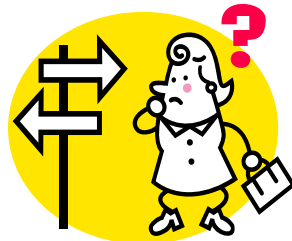


MOR, we will also learn the other sources of POWER that God gives to His children besides His POWERFUL WORD! Here we go reading God's POWERFUL WORD to learn about HIS POWERFUL ARMOR that is available to YOU if you are a believer in Christ to protect YOUR mind & give YOU power to resist temptation! Boy oh Boy! In this world, we sure DO need God's protection & power! You see, this is NOT a physical battle that we are fighting. This is SPIRITUAL BATTLE - an INVISIBLE BATTLE.

"For though we walk n the flesh, (our human bodies) we do not war after the flesh:"

2 Corinthians 10:3 KJB

God is on one side & Satan is on the other.



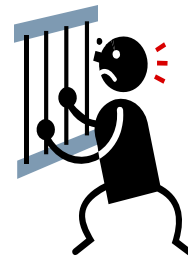
Satan wants us to THINK & ACT his way. God wants us to THINK & ACT HIS WAY!

But as we will learn, God has given us POWERFUL WEAPONS & ARMOR to use to be able to THINK & ACT like Jesus & RESIST THINKING & ACTING like Satan! Here's what God says about His weapons for His children:

"(For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 2 Corinthians 10:4 KJB

Strongholds are things in life - ways of thinking & doing things that are against God's ways. But Satan makes them look so RIGHT - so TEMPTING that people sort of often slip right into them thinking & doing them - like alcohol & drugs for instance. But THEN, those wrong ways of thinking & doing things TRAP US!

They make us feel like we are IN JAIL behind STRONG BARS that HOLD US TRAPPED INSIDE! They are NOT EASY to get away from. They are STRONG - and they HOLD ON TO US TIGHTLY!



God says they are STRONG HOLDS!

But read 2 Corinthians 10:4 again. God says that the weapons in His armor are MIGHTY & can PULL DOWN those strongholds! How? Well let's READ HOW in the verses 5-6 of 2Corinthians 10 KJB:

"Casting down imaginations (ways of thinking that are against God's Word), and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;"

Satan thinks that he is SMARTER than God. Satan tries to EXALT himself above God. (Isaiah 14:12-14) And Satan wants YOU to think that YOU TOO are smarter than God! (Genesis 3:1-7) But that kind of thinking will only lead to trouble for you. So God says that the way we can GET RID of that kind of thinking is to learn what CHRIST THINKS & OBEY HIM! Then you

WON'T be held by Satan's STRONGHOLDS any more! OK! Here is God's armor. You'll notice God's Word mentioned as part of His armor. But also notice the underlined words. They are other parts of GOD'S POWER that He has given YOU if you have believed in Jesus as your Savior. We'll talk more about each one in coming lessons. Ephesians 10:13-18

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.



Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth (God's Word), and having the breastplate of righteousness;

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Above all, taking the shield of faith (believing God's Word), wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked (all the wrong thoughts & temptations that Satan & his world try to get you to give in to)

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;"

Besides God's AWESOME WORD, His SPIRIT & PRAYER also give us POWER to RESIST TEMPTATION! Put your armor on EVERY DAY! We'll continue next week!

GRACE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor John A. Ricci

Sunday Morning Service

10:00 A.M.

Sunday Transportation Service ~ Call 24 hours Prior

Weekly Services

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:30 P.M.

Prayer Meeting

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:00-7:20 P.M.

Communion Service

First Sunday of Every Month

Children's Prep School (Ages 5-14) & Mother's Room

Available for Every Service

Email

info@gracecfellowship.org

From I-95

- RI Exit #22; *Left* at split to **Rt. 6 W.**
- Take Killingly St (Rt. 128) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* on Manton Ave; cross bridge.
- Turn *Left* at light (CVS on corner), and then bear *Left* at the split. You are now on Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1 mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Left*.

From Rt. 146

- Mineral Spring Ave Exit in Providence.
- From **146 N** turn *Left* off Exit; from **146 S** turn *Right*.
- Take Mineral Spring to end and stay *Left* around the rotary (pass North Providence Town Hall).
- Take next *Right* onto Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1½ mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Right*.



Grace Christian Fellowship

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