

# Exalted in His Time!



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Humans are born—wanting to be successful—and they are not happy unless they achieve some level of success. God wants us to be successful in the *Christian* life and He wants everyone to be exalted in the *right* way.

God has spoken Ezekiel 21:26 “*Exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high.*” The man who spoke from a humble heart prayed Luke 18:13 “*God be merciful to me a sinner*”—he was justified and forgiven by God 14 “*For every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.*” Pride is a real problem in the world today.

When things do not turn out as we had hoped; when we are disappointed and have *losses* instead of *gains*; or have *failed* instead of *succeeded*, we are unhappy and discouraged. It is not God’s will that we be defeated or lack something—we were *created* to be happy and fulfilled.

The two kinds of success in the world are—*human* success and *divine* success, but only *divine* success is the safe kind. Human success is leaving God *out* of our plans—it is dangerous and feeds our pride. It results in all kinds of troubles—and leading us in the wrong direction.

God has *His* success and victory for *His* people—spiritual, physical, moral, social, workplace, finances, in the home, and with everything else. God’s exaltation always *safeguards* our present and eternal interests. Any success *outside* of God’s will eventually brings trouble.

King Asa faced an army of one million troops. The first time he met it *right* by placing the situation in *God’s* hands—and he prayed 2 Chronicles 14:11-12 “*LORD, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O LORD our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. O LORD, thou art our God; let not man prevail against thee. So the LORD smote the Ethiopians.*”

Later, Israel came against King Asa and Judah. Instead of going to God as the *first* time, he asked the Syrians for help. Syria responded to his request and Israel was defeated. The first success was in a *divine* way, but the second in a *human* way—the results also were vastly different.

The *divine* success resulted in various blessings and enjoying many years of peace. The *human* success brought many hardships and disaster for King Asa. A prophet told the king he had acted foolishly—resulting in many troubles. Instead of repenting and meeting it right, the king put the prophet in prison—and even oppressed some of the people—adding sin to sin.

When the king was oppressed with a serious disease, he had no faith in God and turned to man for help. 2 Chronicles 16:12 “*His disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not to the LORD, but to the physicians.*” There is no mention of any repentance or turning back to God. The king died two years later and went the way of all unbelievers—with no hope of ever getting out of that horrible place.

This shows how dangerous *human* success can be, so we must *know* the difference between *human* and *divine* success. The pathway to *divine* success is a *true* repentance and a *real* commitment to God—getting rid of anything that is contrary to His will and Bible teaching.

If we will do *our* part in this, God will do *His* part of exalting us in His time. 1 John 1:9 “*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*”

A full surrender *made*—is a living sacrifice offered. Romans 12:1 “*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*”

We *accept* God’s forgiveness by faith; truly *believe* we are cleansed of past sins; and that God has taken *possession* of our heart by His Spirit within. Romans 10:10 “*For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*”

When we allow God to have *His* way in every detail of our life, then our *repentance* and *surrender* is real—then *He* can exalt us in *His* time. God’s *Word* and *plan* must prevail with everything—not only our attitude toward Him, but also our attitude toward everything else—those at work; in the home; with family members or friends; at school; if oppressed in body; during a financial battle, and concerning everything everyday.

This full surrender to the will of God is *not* a matter of *feeling* but of *faith* in God—after making a final choice. God is not able to *exalt* us if the basis of our *faith* is not correct. After committing our life fully to God, we have an Atonement right to *claim* our deliverance, our victory, and success with whatever we are doing or facing.

Satan will persist in trying to have us think we are *not* forgiven; that our sins are *not* erased; or that the Holy Spirit is *not* controlling our life. The Spirit of God cannot govern and control any life until they *first* believe that He *is* within their heart—by faith and faith alone.

God explains the path we are to walk, if we expect things to go the right way; if we expect to

meet with success in the Christian life; if we want our eternal interests safeguarded; and if we want to eventually come to the place of *divine* exaltation.

The path to walk involves work issues. <sup>1</sup> Peter 2:18-19 “*Servants [employees], be subject to your masters [employer, boss] with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the forward [harsh, cross, and unreasonable]. For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully.*”

Most employees do not put up with harsh treatment today, and will immediately seek employment elsewhere, rather than be subjected to unfair or unreasonable management. But if we want God to *thank* us, then we must be willing to meet employment issues in a scriptural way—and as He explains in His Word.

<sup>1</sup> Peter 2:20 “*For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently?*” When we make a mistake; have not done our work right, or we cost the company money, then anyone would *expect* to be reprimanded, warned, or lectured. “*But if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.*”

When we make *no* mistake; when we do our work *well*; put in *overtime* hours to help the company, and yet we are given no consideration, approval, or praise—but we patiently take the unfair treatment, and keep on doing our work well as before, then God *thinks* us.

Real Christianity is involved—it means we do *not* strike back; we do *not* quit a job if things do not suit us; it means *not* getting angry and *not* complaining, but *staying* on the job and *doing* our work as if the boss were the best of employers.

Humanly-speaking, we could not react in a scriptural way on these issues by human ability—and we are not asked to do this in our own strength—but only after we have truly *repented*;

have *accepted* God’s righteousness and are asking *Him* to help us respond correctly by His Spirit.

God does not expect us to obey one command in the New Testament, until we have made a *final* decision—that through the Blood of Jesus and on the authority of His Word—we are *free* from the grip of Satan; we are *free* from the power of sin, so we *can* respond as the Word says. The Holy Spirit is *in* us, and the Blood of Christ has *cleansed* us—that is why we are able to do it.

Following the Scriptures on workplace issues is totally opposite from the world’s way of meeting wrongs, mistreatment, prejudice, and unreasonable demands. When we have done *nothing* wrong and have the company’s best interest at heart—but our employer takes no notice and instead, treats us as if we had *done* something wrong—that is the opportunity we must prove we are committed to follow the *Word* of God—it is the true *Bible standard* of Christianity.

*Real Christianity consists* of *really* meeting things like this. If we are working for an employer—doing the best we can to please them, and to try in every way possible to make their company prosperous, but they do not seem to appreciate it; they ignore us, put us down, and show no consideration whatever, we must take it patiently and keep on working as if they *did* appreciate us.

We are to be just as *nice* toward them and just as *faithful* an employee of the company, as if they *had* complimented us. *That* is true Christianity—anything *short* of it is not worth a thing—it is *not* God’s Truth. <sup>1</sup> Peter 2:21 “*For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps.*”

There is a reason to walk that path—it is not only the path of *divine exaltation* in this life, but it is the only path that leads to *eternal life*—the straight and narrow road leading to the kingdom.

<sup>1</sup> Peter 2:22-23 Jesus “*Committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously.*”

If we leave our wrongs in the hands of the only One who always judges justly, we will be *exalted in due time*, and be *successful* in the Christian life. The result of meeting things in God’s way is explained—Philippians 2:9-11 “*Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name.*”

The mighty Name of Jesus is so important; “*That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*”

The path to success and exaltation is all through Scripture Philippians 2:14 “*Do all things without murmurings and disputings [arguments and disagreements].*” Not many in the world are following *that* advice—but it is the path to being exalted—the *divine* way <sup>15</sup> “*That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world.*”

True children of God do not argue or complain when insulted or mistreated. They bear it patiently and meet it humbly—placing it in *God’s* hands to correct, solve, and amend, because <sup>1</sup> Peter 5:5 “*God resists [opposes] the proud, But gives grace to the humble.*” It is following the *Word*—and being *Exalted in His Time!* ††

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