

A CHANGED HEART. EQUALS A NEW INWARD LIFE

#S259R

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A new heart attitude is something that everyone needs to have take place in their life through true repentance and a surrender of following self, to instead be committed to following Christ as the Holy Spirit will so inspire one to do. With that renewed attitude of heart, a person will believe and trust on the divine power of God by faith. It is a new heart attitude that truly believes God will heal our body by faith; provide for our needs of each day; will protect our interests and bring about justice: and will give us spiritual wisdom when needed: all by faith and through prayer.

After repenting, confessing, being baptized, and forsaking any known sins in our life, we are then to believe that our old heart attitudes have been forgiven because of the cleansing power of Jesus shed Blood, Also, that our heart attitude has been changed to a new one that will trust God in real faith, because it believes in what Jesus accomplished on the cross. It is then our responsibility and an obligation to maintain that position of trust on God, through our faith in Son of God (as Gal.2:20 tell us so).

Also, (Romans 6:10-11) Jesus "died to sin once: but in that he lives, he lives to God. Likewise reckon ye also [that means to regard or count or consider] yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God through Jesus Christ our Lord." (It is very important that we see ourselves as God's Word says that we should see ourselves, then we can believe on the Son of God for all circumstances in our life).

That old rebellious heart attitude of no trust on God is a dead one, but a believing heart attitude of faith in God, is one that is alive. That Scriptural position of trust on God by faith alone; and the obedient attitude of faith in Christ, needs to be retained and maintained. We should not tolerate any other heart attitude.

Satan will always try to get us away from that position of faith, and he suggests that we should see our deliverance before we believe that we have it. He hides the fact that we are a branch of God's Truth connected to the Vine of divine power. If we will make our uncompromising decision to believe the Word of God that we are now dead to that old attitude of no trust but alive to a new believing attitude of faith, God will prove that His Word prevails over Satan's lie.

That attitude of being dead to sin but alive to God, is to be retained through any circumstance of life, and that retention is by following New Testament instruction. If we maintain that stand, we will overcome the devil by faith in God.

Responding to things and people as God's Word tells us to respond, is really not difficult, because we just rely on God's power for success. There is no limit to what "the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe," can do (Ephes.1:19). Our spiritual eyes need to be spiritually enlightened.

The apostle was sent to the Gentiles (Acts 26:18) "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me." If we will choose to believe, the Holy Spirit will inspire us to know that we are forgiven when we trust God because the cost has been paid.

The heart attitude change everyone needs, is one that will trust on the divine power of God, and one that will believe that He will provide our needs, bring about justice, heal our body, and protect our interests, when we act in faith on His promise to do that. It "is according to the working of His mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead." (we are told Ephes.1:19-20).

So, it is the mercy of God showing us the love of God. (Ephes.2:4-6) "God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

That inward change of attitude is the inward conversion of heart that must take place. (Matt.18:3) "Verily I say to you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven." (A little child is totally dependent; humble and teachable; because they are willing to trust a parent, so we must have that same attitude toward God our Father and be willing to trust Him.

We are to humble ourselves before Him; depend on His power alone in everything; and always be ready to learn when He teaches us through the various circumstances we meet in life. We are to maintain that humble attitude of trust on Him through every situation. (Colos.3:17) "Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." (Jesus is the Vine Who gives us the strength, the ability, and the desire to carry through in faith.)

The key to living an overcoming life of faith in Christ, is to maintain the Scriptural position of 'trust on God', seeing ourselves as dead to the un-believing attitudes in our past experiences, but now alive to the believing attitudes of the present. Whatever we say, do, or decide, is to be done by the power of the Holy Spirit within only. We are to believe in our heart, before seeing victory with our eyes.

When Jesus is truly within our heart by faith, we will be able to do things; meet situations; and treat people around us via His power only; through that same faith only. It will be easy to 'return good for evil and be natural for us to not take revenge, because we believe and know that God will deal with that wrong in His way and time.

When we decide to meet offensive people and difficult situations as God's Word says, knowing that Christ's Spirit is in our heart, we will be able to respond as the Bible says to do. As we maintain that position of faith in Christ; and that attitude of trust on God, it will be no problem to obey His Word concerning everything. We are protected from failing by a 'shield of faith'.

We will find it easy to pray for our enemies; to lend and expect nothing in return; and to give more than we are asked to give, because God provides the ability to do that, we just make our choice to do it by faith in Him. As we trust God in faith, He proves that His Word means what it says, and in our following His Word, there is "exceeding great reward", just as God promised Abram. That would include all of God's Promises to provide for our daily needs and finances, as the apostle reminded everyone to be sure to claim to receive (and to also glorify God from our heart for His constant watchfulness over us). (Phil.4:19-20) "But my God, so great is His wealth of glory in Christ Jesus, will fully supply every need of yours. And to our God and Father be the glory throughout the Ages of the Ages! Amen."

Trusting on the power of God, through faith in the Blood of Christ, should include every concern of every day. All parents want to have obedient children, but we are not to depend on the way we talk to them (our tone of voice nor on threats of punishment) to get their obedience toward us. We are to (and need to) give the children instruction and advice, of course, [for it is God's command for parents to "train the children in the way they should go, and they will not depart from that"], but parents are to (and must) do so in the 'Name of Jesus', while trusting and depending on the power of God to put an 'obedient spirit' in them before our saying anything.

That changed heart attitude of trusting on the power of God is necessary also for one's healing, as it is with every other promise of God. (Mark 11:24) "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." If we truly believe, we will definitely receive, as we depend on God in faith that we are delivered, strengthened, and healed, not by any feeling; but by our believing on God's Promises. [We are assured from Scripture (2 Cor.1: 19-22) "For Jesus Christ the Son of God—He who was proclaimed among you by us," "did not show Himself a waverer between "Yes" and "No." "But it was and always is "Yes" with Him. For all the promises of God, whatever their number, have their confirmation in Him; and for this reason through Him also, our "Amen" acknowledges their truth, and promotes the glory of God through our faith. But He who is making us" (the apostle said) "as well as you steadfast through union with the Anointed One, and has anointed us, is God, and He has also set His seal upon us, and has put His Spirit into our hearts as a pledge and a foretaste of future blessing."

We need to reject any human way of healing and put our faith on the promised healing power of God, because God will not share our trust, nor our loyalty, with any other power, plan, or process. (Exodus 34:14) "Thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God." (Deuteronomy 4:24) "The LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God."

We are instructed to claim healing in Jesus' Name, because (John 16:23-24 says), "Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, He will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full." So, we are to see ourselves delivered, and to believe the victory is ours on the authority of the 'Word of God' alone.

That is a free-will choice on our part, to believe that God's Word means what it says. The question must be settled on our part,

whether we are going by what we see, or acting on what we believe that God's Word says is already true. Acting in faith can only be done by the empowerment of the Spirit. We are to walk and work in complete dependence on God's power. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" [That is what God's Word tells us. (Phil.4:13).

Jesus was teaching the people (Matt.12:10) "and a man with a shriveled hand was there." That man was not able to use his arm. Jesus would have been speaking about (Reve.13:8) "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world," Who bore every sin, sickness, pain, and weakness on the cross. The man would have had to believe that about the slain Lamb of God, and when he did, Jesus said to him (Matt.12:13) "Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other."

God offers to all of us "exceeding great and precious promises" (2 Peter 1:4), that are all part of our divine inheritance, so the moment we pray in faith, we are to see by faith that the work of healing is done. We are to then begin acting in dependence on the divine power of God to make it a reality just as that man who had had a withered hand.

It is God's divine power that enables the weary to win. It is about believing the *Word* and depending on *God*. (Isaiah 40:28) "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary." We should not put limits on what God is able to do for us. When we are ready to believe, we are to act in faith on His Word. (Matt.19:26) "Jesus looked at them and said, "With men this is impossible, but with God everything is possible."

(Isaiah 40:29-31) "He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint."

The shed Blood of Christ provides forgiveness, healing, and victory to those who believe and act in faith on God's promise. Satan is the author of trouble, disease, conflict, and contention, but we are told (1 John 3:8) "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." So, it is our responsibility to believe that that is true; then to act in faith like we do believe.

Christ's sacrifice on a cross at Calvary, releases us from those things Satan always tries to put on us. The responsibility on our part is our willingness to believe, which comes from a change of heart on our part. It is making a new start with a renewed heart attitude (as enabled by God's Spirit), one that is willing to put faith in action. The power of God, through the indwelling Spirit, enables us to act in faith. It is the willingness in our mind and heart that God is always watching for in every person. [A new heart makes a 'new start' this time, believing on "the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe." (As we are told Ephesians 1:19).

So, we are obligated to steadfastly believe on God's never-ending mercy and love for us, which compels Him to watch over, protect, heal, and provide for our every need through our faith in Christ Jesus!

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## S259R MAIN POINTS OF THE LESSON:

1 A new heart attitude is something that everyone needs to have taken place in their life through true repentance and a surrender of following 'self', to *instead* be committed to following Christ as the Holy Spirit will so inspire a person to do.

2 With that renewed attitude of heart, a person will be enabled by the Holy Spirit, to believe and trust on the divine power of God by faith on His Word and Promises, knowing that each one is supported and confirmed by the shed Blood of Christ and power of His resurrection!

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