

MEETING GOD'S CONDITIONS FOR DELIVERANCE

(THRU MERITS OF JESUS' BLOOD) (NOT OUR MERIT)

S282R

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It has always been God's Will for us to be victorious in a prayer life, and to be protected from attacks and oppressions from Satan. As we allow the Holy Spirit to teach us, we will learn about God's plan given in His Word for our deliverance and protection. God will also strengthen our faith to enable us to receive via that plan of His, for us. We may, at times, be tempted and waver in our faith, but God's faithfulness cannot be questioned nor ever be proved to be lacking. If we haven't yet gotten our victory, we need to look at the sincerity of our position of faith and trust which we have placed on God, (not question His faithfulness, nor question the power for our deliverance thru the merits of the Atonement Blood of Christ.

God's plan for victory in our life of faith and trust on His Son, is for us to use our power of choice to make a final decision to trust on His faithful Promises to deliver us, and then claim His Atonement Blood as our merit for receiving from Him. That freewill choice on our part should never be considered as works, instead, it is our responsibility (our duty) to act in faith. That is God's condition for us to receive the benefits of the Atonement work of Jesus Christ. We are to serve God in spirit and truth, and Jesus told us (John 16: 13) that Spirit of Truth He will guide you into all the truth. God is not asking nor expecting us to serve Him in our own strength, but to serve Him through the grace and strength His Spirit provides for us.

There can be no merit of our own in the service that God requires of us (Jesus explained Luke 17:10), ASo you also, when you have obeyed all the orders given you, must say, "There is no merit in our service: what we have done is only what we were in duty bound to do."

There are valuable examples in the Bible which plainly reveal a great provision that God made for everyone who will believe it and accept it. Those examples make it plain what the conditions are for receiving the full benefit of that Atonement work of Christ, (which is the only merit needed for our answered prayer', or victory). The examples also give us a clear understanding of merit and conditions.

The example and teaching that describes what merit' is, is found in (Exod.11-12). All that God required for the Israelite's deliverance and 'protection' was the blood of a lamb (a slain animal) to be over their door, and only a type of the real Passover Lamb, Jesus Christ. This makes it plain that all the merit that God requires is the Blood; and that we are not required to provide any merit or worthiness of our own, to receive the rich blessings that God has given us thru Christ (for this life and in that life to come).

Conditions to be met in order to receive deliverance from God have no merit whatsoever, and the 'conditions' do not cause God to do anything for us. Meeting faith conditions is simply what lets the victory in, and, it really means taking a 'believing' attitude in our heart and mind, which will allow God's love, mercy, and power to work unhindered for us. We are created as free moral agents, who have a power of choice to take an attitude whereby God's power can work, (or

we choose to take an attitude that allows the devil to work and hinder our deliverance). We are not expected to do something in our own strength, but we have been given a responsibility to make the 'right choice', and it is the Holy Spirit who will give us the spiritual light and strength that we need to make that choice. God's power cannot work for us until we have made our decision final .. to accept God's plan (His conditions), instead of following a plan of the self-life that will hinder our receiving deliverance from God).

The third chapter of Daniel gives us one of the best examples, which reveals the conditions for actually having the full power of God to work unhindered for us. Those three Hebrews refused to disobey God's Word, by bowing down to worship an image in order to save their lives, .. because ..to bend their back in worship of an image would have been a disobedience of God's Word. "You shall have no other gods before Me." (God said, Exod.20:3). To bow to the image would have meant they were trusting in something else instead of on our unseen God (a disobedience of His first Commandment and a sin of idolatry). It would have been a compromise of their faith, instead of a final decision (or choice on their part) to trust God (even at the risk of their life).

They used their God-given power of choice to trust on God, instead of bowing to laws and demands of a Government Ruler. They could have accepted fear from the devil (fear for their very life), and chose to use their power of choice in a wrong way. It was not by doing anything of themselves, ..rather, it was simply by choosing right to trust in God instead of trust on fallen man, (that they met God's conditions to have His almighty power to protect them from the burning flames of a hot furnace). A final decision to do nothing but what God's Word says (which meant to trust in Him alone instead of on human plans), .. that was ... meeting God's conditions.

Faith in the power of the Blood of Jesus Christ is the only merit required by God to have His power to work to protect us, .(and that is the same merit that paid for those Hebrew's protection and miraculous deliverance). They did not have to do anything of themselves, rather, just live up to their 'responsibility' to use their power of choice correctly to trust on God (and God's omnipotent power was immediately at their side to save their life. It is the same plan that God wants us to understand and follow, in our life of trust on the 'Son of God'.

Those 'Hebrew believers' did not just say they were trusting God, their actions proved they were trusting. (Matt.7:21)

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Master, Master,' will enter the Kingdom of the Heavens, but only those who are obedient to my Father who is in Heaven."

Those Hebrew's actions proved their faith. (James 2:14 says) "What good is it, my brethren, if a man professes to have faith, and yet his actions do not correspond? Can such faith save him?" Those 'Hebrew believers' final decision to obey God and to go through with trusting on Him to deliver them, allowed God's power to come in and work unhindered in saving them from the flames of fire. (Otherwise, there would have been no miraculous deliverance for us to read about).

(James 2:26) "For just as a human body without a spirit is lifeless, so also faith is lifeless if it is unaccompanied by obedience."

(The NKJ says "without works is dead", the NIV says "without deeds is dead"). By using their power of choice right, to choose not to disobey God's Word, the Hebrew children had 'met the conditions for receiving a full manifestation of God's power. The only thing they had to do, was to choose right, (that is, choose not to disobey God's Word by trusting something aside from Him, rather, to trust on His power to deliver them when their life was at stake).

These two examples of 'foundation Truths' from the Bible (those of merit and condition), make it clear how we can have a full manifestation of God's power in protecting us from the devil's attacks, (and his deceitful tricks to get us away from trusting God for things and situations in our life). And, as we grow in the faith, to finally and continually be at rest and not be tormented and robbed of our peace, or disturbed spiritually in our life, oppressed in our body, hindered in financial affairs, in our home or at a workplace. [Everything in a true Christian life of faith is covered by an Atoning Blood of Jesus Christ. "Our responsibility is to accept and connect up to it by believing on the power of that Blood."] (That bears repeating).

Truly believing is staying connected to the true Vine 'Jesus Christ', and thus, receiving the benefits of Christ's Atonement work on the Cross (and bearing spiritual fruit).

It is not 'God's will' for the devil to ever lay the weight of his finger on us, but he takes advantage of our ignorance of Scriptures. He uses our spiritual blindness and unbelief in the early stages of our Christian life, as a means by which to attack us. Our spiritual lack' opens the door for the devil to get a foothold in our life (even though we may not always realize it). So, we need to come to know what God's written Word has already told us, and we need to make a final decision to place our faith on God's Promises.

We have to get back to what God's Word says (that is, His plan for us to accept and follow), and stop believing what the devil is trying to tell us by His suggestions to our mind, (or by circumstances that he wants us to look at in order to try to control our decisions and actions). To get our victory, it is most important that we do as God's Word tells us, that is, to 'resist the devil steadfast in faith, and have the devil flee from us. When we truly take our stand of faith relying on God's written Word and His never-failing Promises, we are, in reality, asking God to fight the devil for us, (so the devil must flee from the almighty power of God. The devil's power was defeated by 'Christ's work on Calvary's Cross' (and even death was conquered by His 'resurrection to life'), so that is what God wants us to fully realize through the Holy Spirit teaching us from His Word, (that the Blood of Christ is our merit that was already paid for us).

Like a young child learning to solve arithmetic problems under the guidance of the teacher, if they stick at it, they will eventually learn to solve all the problems in the book. It will be the same in the Truth if we hold steadfast in wanting to trust on the Son of God. God is the Master workman and a perfect Teacher, so whenever He can find anyone who will truly repent and surrender their life to Him (without reservation or compromise), He will begin doing a perfect work of teaching them and leading that person to a full knowledge of

the Truth of His Word. God will enable us to realize exactly what the Atonement Blood of Jesus Christ on the Cross has truly accomplished for us. Once we truly understand what Christ's Atonement Blood has done for us, we will have confidence to approach His 'Throne of Grace' and trust on the power of His Blood for every situation in our life.

When the blood of a slain lamb was over the doors of the Israelites in Egypt (only a poor type of Jesus' shed Blood), they had such perfect protection from God that a dog could not bark to disturb their peace. That protection provided is not just an 'historical record', nor was it only meant for that special occasion, instead, it should give us a true perception of what God's 'everlasting will is for us. It is as true and effective for us to receive and enjoy today, as the day it was recorded (for us to read or to hear about). It is our responsibility to accept and Believe it, and we have a much greater provision on which to base our claim in order to reap the results of knowing and believing on the power of Jesus' Blood (placed by faith over our doors). (Much more than they had with the blood of a slain animal). How far more efficacious is the shed Blood of Jesus Christ!!

The Israelites received God's perfect protection under the blood of a slain animal, so we should have much more protection than they had, as the blood of Jesus Christ is far more valuable than that of a slain animal. They were not only protected from a terrible pestilence (or even the bark of a dog to disturb their peace), they were also delivered from the bondage of the Egyptians, (and everything else the devil and his agents would try to do to them). If their being under the blood of an animal would not allow the worst disease (that ever cursed a land and its people), to even touch man or beast of the Israelites, .. how could anyone believe that the Blood of Jesus Christ does not mean as much (or far more) to us now, as blood of that slain lamb meant to them. All who were sick among millions of Israelites were healed. (Psalm 105:37 says) "He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes."

No one could ever put in writing or describe how much greater Jesus Christ is, and how much more His Blood means to us. 'His Blood' has placed God with us and for us, exactly as He was with Israel. He is always at our side with pure perfect love for us, and He longs to do for us everything that we could need or desire (within His Will) to be happy in this life. Accepting what His Blood has done for us, and believing on the power of that Blood, is the condition to be met for us to receive from God (and His condition is not inconsistent).

It is the same as with conditions we meet in 'everyday matters', and a condition that neither God nor man can change, ..that is, of one free-moral agent having confidence to receive something from another free-moral agent. It reality, it places our welfare in our own hands for this time as well as for eternity. That power of choice is God-given and we are responsible for the way we exercise it. God's power cannot work for us until we make our choice final to trust Him, (and the devil cannot harm us unless we use our choice to listen to him).

Jesus died for the whole world, and His Blood can be over every door, but only a very small number of people in the all the world get

any benefit of His Blood. Christ need not have died as far as many people are concerned, and, they do not get any more benefit than if He never died and rose to life again. Why?? Because they use their power of choice to listen to Satan instead of God. God cannot reveal that to most 'professing Christians', because they have never made a final decision to listen to God's Word instead of Satan. They have allowed their ministers and Churches to come between them and God, so they only have a poor quality of outward religion, which cannot save those people from a Lake of Fire. (Mark 7:6-8) "Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites," Jesus replied; "as it is written," 'This People honor Me with their lips, while their hearts are far away from Me: But idle is their devotion while they lay down precepts which are mere human rules.' "You neglect God's Commandment: you hold fast to men's traditions."

Instead of meeting that condition of choosing to trust on the Son of God, they will choose instead to trust on the precepts (the mere human rules) of man. (God cannot help one who chooses the wrong place of trust, and who refuses to repent of that wrongly placed trust).

The Holy Spirit will teach us exactly as He did with those Hebrew children; teach us how important it is to settle it final to depend on the Living God, regardless of the consequences. Once we have made our final decision to meet the various circumstances of life according to God's Word, everything that touches our life, every temptation from the devil and trial will eventually work together for good as we meet them right. Everything works together for good to those who love God, and we show our love for God by listening to and obeying His requirement to trust on the power of the Blood of His Son, Jesus Christ. As we place our trust on Him, God will give us all the spiritual light and strength that we need to meet things according to His Word, and we can then reap the benefits of the Atonement Blood that supports His Word. As we hold steadfast in faith, our growth and development will be very rapid. It seemed like a small insignificant human effort that would have saved the lives of the three Hebrew children, (humanly speaking, just by bending their backs), but, it would have meant to trust in a man-made image of worship. Their final decision to trust in the living God alone to save them, enabled Him to manifest His great power to perform a great miracle of quenching the violence of fire. Their spiritual growth came very rapidly.

Their final decision to do nothing else but what God's Word says, and to trust only on the living God instead of fallen man and his devices to mislead them, is the same vital principle involved in all of our dealings with God. God will do exactly the same today for us or anyone else who uses their power of choice to take that same attitude as did those Hebrew 'believers'.

Three valuable truths are involved in being delivered and protected from Satan's attacks. First, we are told to judge ourselves, and we would not be judged by the Lord. When we refuse to do that, and we come to the place where God has to judge us, we are chastened by Him that we might not be condemned along with the world, and to also be saved from the Lake of Fire. God shows His great mercy and love for us, by chastening us to bring about confession and repentance in order to save us by His grace alone, from condemnation.

The Apostle Paul made special reference to the physical attacks of the body, as being a reason to judge ourselves (1 Cor. 11:31-32). "For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world."

That means for us, that the moment we realize anything unscriptural in our life, any wrong thing we have done, or an attitude that is not according to God's Will and 'His Word', if we would confess it and forsake it right away, God will be faithful to forgive us, and that will be the end of it. We will not only receive the necessary spiritual victory, but we will be protected from Satan's attacks in our body or otherwise.

Paul set an example of judging ourselves (Acts 23:), for when he realized that he had spoken wrongly to the high priest (who had commanded for Paul to be struck), Paul immediately confessed that he had done wrong (therefore, God did not have to judge Paul for that offense against the Scriptures).

A second valuable admonition that Scriptures teach, is to watch and pray ahead (as Jesus told His disciples in Luke 11:),... for our provisions, for our protection from Satan's oppressions, and, to be forgiven of our sins as we must forgive others. "Watch and pray' ahead for this day, that you may not enter into temptation" (and to also be forgiven), would also mean that it keeps us pure in heart and 'filled with the Spirit'. So, by God's power it does not allow Satan to attack us today.

Jesus meant for us to pray each morning for this day. This command from Jesus for each one of us to watch and pray ahead, is a very important 'condition' that He gave for us, to keep us pardoned, cleansed, and 'protected from a temptation' that would lead us astray from His Word. Also, it is meeting up to His condition for us to be kept victorious and protected from Satan. Jesus saying to pray "Lead us not into temptation", includes temptations of our spirit, soul, and in our body, .. as well as our home, with our finances, at the workshop, and with everything else that concerns us.

Jesus then told us to close our prayer, by saying, "For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen." That verse takes us back to our depending on God alone for all of these things to be done in our life, and back to our trusting only on the merits of the power of the Atonement Blood of Jesus Christ, as it is 'the condition or the requirement that He laid upon us.

That freewill choice on our part (choosing to trust on the merits of Jesus' shed Blood), should never be considered as works religion', instead, it is the opposite of that, for it is our God-given responsibility, (our duty) to 'act in faith' for each day's needs.

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The First Century Gospel Church/Philadelphia