

FULL DEPENDENCE UPON GOD



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The whole object of God's dealing since the fall of man has been to bring him back to a full dependence upon Him alone for everything which concerns this life, especially his personal life and spiritual interests; his physical health, protection; financial support; peace; and his success and prosperity in all things. That has been God's whole plan, which was just what man enjoyed in the Garden of Eden.

Man started out with a total dependence on God alone for everything until Adam committed that foundation sin of the world that of starting out to trust in his own wisdom and plans; in his own strength or in somebody else besides God.

The whole object of the gospel is to bring man back to God. 1 Corinthians 2:1-2, Paul said, "*And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.*"

That is the first step. That gives us the right to have the entire power of God at our side, ready for us to take and use at a moment's notice.

Verses 3-5, "*And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*"

The prodigal son is the story of the world as a whole. The whole world is as a prodigal son, eating husks among the swine, trying to get along without God, their Father. The prodigal son had to acknowledge his

foolishness and rebellion and had to start all over again and depend upon his father. Once he turned again toward his father's love and compassion, everything changed. Instead of husks, he had the fatted calf; instead of rags, he had the best robe; instead of having Satan as his master, he had his father.

We all have our choice as this prodigal son learned, and it is always better to be in total trust on the Father, God Himself, than to be in the world where Satan is in control. God has provided everything for us, through His Son on the Cross, health, strength, peace, happiness, all things free for the asking.

Satan always makes us walk in the hardest, meanest, most unhappy, and unpleasant ways that he can. There is no peace or contentment with him.

There is no one outside of God's will, that is truly contented, always wanting more, bigger, better, the best there is. From the highest in office down to the lowest laborer in the field, you will find there is a longing and a desire down in their hearts that has never been met; something they have always wanted and yet never possessed.

That condition is always there when one is outside the will of God. The moment we get into the center of God's will, in full dependence upon God, all blessing will come pouring in. God knows just how quickly we can bear it. His blessings will come pouring in without money and without price. The only limit will be our ability to receive it without being harmed or hindered spiritually, physically, in the home-life, or any place else.

The Blood of Jesus Christ on Calvary's Cross has placed God and all that He is, or can be, at our side for our use and dependence at all hours of the day or night. When we have learned that lesson and have taken full advantage of it, then we can say, "All my help from Thee I bring; all my expectations are all from Thee."

We will then have no difficulty in receiving the victory and God's power will begin to flow in, and we will have a confidence that we have never had before. We will have faith, not feeling; we will have confidence, not doubting. We will have answers to prayer just as fast as we can take them. We will be able to stand victorious and not be tempted to turn aside if we are depending on God alone.

The late pastor said that he was talking to a member once who had an oppression in their body. They told him

that they hardly felt able to walk from their home to Church which was only six to eight blocks.

I advised them that they should be walking many times that amount and quoted from Isaiah 40: 28-31. I told them of this walk or race; possibly a marathon, which may have consisted of a thirty-mile race. There were three persons who started in this race: two fell by the wayside---one fainted and the other fell totally exhausted while the third one finished fresher and stronger than when he started out.

I explained that the first two were traveling in their own strength---depending on human power, but the third was depending on God and His power.

(Verse 28) "*Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.*"

And now for going out and walking many miles compared to walking the six to eight blocks. (Verses 29-30) "*He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:*" ---that means they shall fall exhausted.

(Verse 31) "*But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength;* That is the weak ones who placed their trust in God's strength.

This member then said, "I thought I had to wait until I saw and felt something, wait until I received something." I explained that the word "wait" in the original meant "expect." The original Hebrew translation is--"Those who expect from Jehovah shall pass from weakness to strength." Those who 'walk', 'run,' or 'go in dependence upon God's power alone'---"*shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.*"

Paul gives us instructions concerning this in Colossians 3:17, "*And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,*" When we do all in the Name of the Lord Jesus, we shall be able to go about our way and not grow weary and faint not.

This verse can also be applied to other things in our daily life. If we ask our children to do something, we are to depend on the power of God to make that child do what has been asked of them. All threats and scolding are depending on human force and power. We are to 'do all in the Name of the Lord Jesus.' Ask God to place an

obedient spirit within that child and not allow them to do one disobedient thing.

If we don't do this, we can be sure we are going about in our own strength; not doing it in the Name of the Lord Jesus; who has "all power and authority in Heaven and earth" back of Him and His Word. That entire power of His is at our side for our disposal to use for whatever we desire.

It doesn't matter who we are dealing with. It could be a spouse, a child, friend, or even an employer; anyone that we may come in contact with. If we have been wronged in any way, we have no right to hold resentment against anyone, not even to give them the silent treatment, being a little cool or a little backward toward them. That is only trying by our own efforts to force them to treat us right.

We are to depend on the presence and power of God to make every wrong right and to realize that there are terrible consequences for that deep seated idolatry of depending on human efforts. Our trust is to be totally on Him. Psalm 91:2, "*I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.*"

Any trial that we may have, any temptation we may be faced with, or all the tight places we may get into financially are all there just for one purpose, to transfer our confidence from human to be one hundred percent divine.

That is one lesson we need to learn that our faith in God and our dependence upon Him must be perfected. At times Satan may be trying to hide behind one of his carnal weapons, it could even be that "old worry weapon" which he so often tries to use.

Worry is a carnal weapon, which is against the Word of God. Philippians 4:6-7, "*Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*"

Every battle that we go through is for one purpose. God is working to perfect our faith and confidence in Him. 1 Peter 1:7, "*The trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.*"

We have no power of ourselves to receive our deliverance or to hold on to it. The more we try in our own strength, the more Satan can come and rob us of them. God is waiting to give us the deliverance and to protect us from the power of Satan.

The very moment our heart's determination is to go through with depending on God for anything, God begins to work and will place a real confidence within us and takes away all desire for human dependence.

God's power is absolutely free for our use day or night. His Word tells us that the moment we give up efforts of our own, His power will begin to work in our behalf. The Blood of Christ has paid the price for that power, and the Word tells us the moment we ask according to the promises, that power is manifested, and as we act in full dependence on the power of God, our freedom is manifested.

David acted in full dependence on the power of God, and he slew the giant. Goliath had been trained from his youth up for these battles and combats, using a spear, sword, and a shield.

David was just a shepherd boy, whose only experience was killing a lion and a bear. In the name of the Lord, in full dependence upon His power, he took hold of those beasts and slew them in full dependence upon God.

David said in 1 Samuel 17:37, "*The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine.*"

King Saul said to David in Verse 33, "*Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.*"

Saul wanted David to wear his personal armor. There was the carnal mind, placing trust in something besides the living God alone who wants to do all things for everyone.

To satisfy the King, David tried it on, but it did not fit. However, David was confident, and laid it aside, knowing that the Lord who delivered him out of the paw of the lion and the bear was great enough for this occasion as well.

David went out, chose five smooth stones from the brook and placed them in his shepherd's bag and with his sling in his hand, drew near to the Philistine giant.

1 Samuel 17:42-44, "*And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance. And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.*"

There we have the "faithful" and the "unbelieving" side by side, going out to battle; one trained by man from his youth up with all the necessary armor for battle, with David as the other, who was untrained by man, but depending solely on the power of God.

1 Samuel 17:45-46, "*Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.*"

(Verse 46), "*This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.*"

David knew that God does not deliver by sword and spear and went out against that giant in full assurance that "as thy faith, so shall it be done for thee." That giant was instantly killed, and his head taken from his shoulders. His human trust in his body armor was of no avail because David had placed a deliberate, full dependence on the power of God.

If we will accept the Blood as the merit; the Word as the authority; and then act as if we had exactly what we have prayed for, in full dependence upon the power of God, nothing can prevent us from being fully victorious in our home-life, finances, physically and in every part of our life here.



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