

# MEETING THINGS IN GOD'S WAY

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It is only when we are on Scriptural grounds that we are in a position where we can see and enjoy the blessings of God. When we are fully consecrated, we will learn to meet everything in God's way, receive the great benefits, and the Holy Spirit can make all things turn into a real blessing for us.

The importance of meeting things in God's way cannot be rightly valued or estimated; it is of the greatest importance in a Christian's life. Everything that we need and desire will result only as we meet things right, and our hope of Heaven depends upon it. God has ordained that all circumstances of life must be met according to His Word in the New Testament. James 1:12 makes this very plain. *"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."*

Weymouth expresses this verse much plainer than our authorized version. *"Blessed is he who patiently endures trials;"* Blessed is the man who meets and goes through temptations and trouble successfully--meets them right, successfully goes through in God's way. *"For when he has stood the test, he will gain the victor's crown--even the crown of Life--which the Lord has promised to those who love Him."*

All the battles, trials, and temptations we go through are for the purpose of increasing our knowledge of God and developing our characters. Just to the extent that we understand God's Word and Truth, and have the knowledge of Him, just to that extent will we enter into the blessings of God and finally into Heaven itself.

Job's self-righteousness put him on an ash heap full of sores; after he learned his lesson, God gave him twice as much as he had at first. Job had grievous boils from the crown of his head to the sole of his feet. He was really in a dying condition, but by laying aside his own plans and ways and accepting God's ways, he received a real deliverance, which means we can do the same and receive the same benefits as Job did.

We should rise above our trials and meet them right. When we meet every kind of trial right and settle it to come to the place where nothing or nobody will turn us from God's will and plan, under any circumstance, then we will receive the crown of life and also fullness of blessing here. That is the whole object of trials. Of course, we do not like trials and troubles; or to have people say and do things to us of the most trying nature, and most cutting things, but they are of most valuable spiritual value.

We are not permitted to be worried or disturbed, nor try to help ourselves in any way. The Lord permits these things to teach and train us.

Satan will find somebody to say or do something to disturb and upset us. When such is the case, be assured that Satan has something in us, thru which he will try to tempt and discourage us. When we meet it right, to go thru in God's way, it will remedy the defect in our lives that caused it. That is the

value of meeting things right. We are to meet our physical and financial battles right also; not by resenting them, but by obeying the Scriptures concerning them.

Romans 12:19, *"Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."*

Not a word, a deed, or a look of resentment, not a change of attitude, no matter how mean, or how contemptible people may have acted toward us. We are not privileged to do the least thing, nor to change our attitude in the least because that would be avenging ourselves; and to that extent would only permit the enemy to do worse, and hinder God from helping us. Our last act must be settled forever before God can work; as soon as we settle that, God is enabled to work spiritually, physically, and financially. We are to get out of the way.

God says, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." God considers it His work to avenge people, fight their battles, and conquer their enemies--it is His business; and He does not allow us to touch it.

Psalms 103:6, *"The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed."* God can deliver us from our wrongs and right them for us whether they are direct from the devil, or if he works thru people saying or doing things against us. We must consider that Satan is back of it and remember the test. *"Be not overcome of evil but overcome evil with good."* (Verse 21)

The moment we resent anything, whether in our home, which is the place where Satan likes to fight the most, and he delights to find someone in the workshop to do some mean work, something which is very hard to bear, someone who is too hard to get along with. That is the greatest opportunity of a lifetime to have the privilege of trying out the great grace of God, which the Lord Jesus Christ came to give us.

We are commanded to walk in His footsteps. 1st Peter 2:21-23, *"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously."*

He left us this example that we should follow in His steps. Verse 19, *"For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully."*

This is the only place in the Bible where it is written that God considers that such an attitude is worthy of thanks from God. This being the case, we should be thankful for the privilege of going through with God. God has given us a plan of how to meet our battles in 1st Peter 5:8-10, *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you"*.

We have the same trials, temptations, and testings as our brethren until we almost think that God is nowhere around and that we are never going to be delivered: but Jesus Christ Himself will perfect, stablish, strengthen, and settle us; that is what He is working for.

Of all the things that are most valuable, and profitable, in this Christian life, is when we are found in the will of God; then we will have everything we desire, and we will be kept "in the secret place of the Most High." We will have everything to suit us in the home-life, in the workshop, and everywhere else.

There is only one thing we are privileged to do and that is to refuse to have them, to refuse to be oppressed. We are to "resist the devil steadfast in the faith." We have that power to choose, we can make that choice to refuse to have those troubles for ourselves or loved ones in the home or in the workshop.

Satan has no right to disturb our peace, anywhere, as God desires us to be kept in the Secret Place. We should settle it finally and forever that we will not touch it ourselves, we will not make the way of escape, we will not make the slightest effort to change things, but finally and forever trust God and leave the matter in His hands.

Then God can work effectually, and we will see God beginning to deliver, strengthen, settle, and perfect us. That is the important thing, and it is such an easy way of resisting the devil, just refusing to touch the job, and refusing to be oppressed, and God will deliver those who refuse to be oppressed.

We have wonderful examples in the Bible, which fit every case; people who never had a Bible, people who never heard a sermon; but, by resisting the devil, they were fully delivered; even persons who were backsliders and controlled by Satan were delivered; so, we need not be discouraged.

Satan will try to blockade us financially, and we usually meet it just opposite to what we should. We should refuse to be blockaded financially, refuse to stand it a moment longer."

The place to start for such deliverances is at Calvary's Cross, the starting place for victory. When we realize that the Cross of Jesus Christ has exempted us from every sin, every trouble of every kind, every poverty, every calamity, and every blockade of the devil, we have discovered a good foundation. We must see our rights before we can claim them. If Satan can make us think for one moment that we have to be oppressed, that we are not exempt, and if he can cover up our exemption rights in Christ Jesus and the great work on the Cross, he will bring up one reason after another to do so, in order to hinder us from claiming our rights.

We want to see that our sins, sorrows, diseases, poverty, and family troubles were all borne on Calvary's Cross, and we do not have to have them. When our loved ones begin to disturb our peace, when Satan gets us looking at people, at circumstances and keeps our eyes on the seen things, instead of the unseen, we are to get our eyes on the great work on Calvary's Cross, where we are exempt from the least ache or pain, from the least home trouble or any other of Satan's oppressions. The moment we allow this Word to be made plain, through the Holy Spirit, we will enter into victory. We can never see too clearly, or understand too well the work on the Cross, because anyone who sees and believes--Satan's power is done; because he was rendered powerless on Calvary's Cross.

Hebrews 2:14,15, *"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them, who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."*

The great beginning of resisting the devil steadfast in the faith, is to hold before us and to grasp clearly, our exemption rights through the Blood. God has made provision for every distress, every ache and pain, and there is no merit of our own required, no price of our own and no goodness of our own. We are not exempt because we have any faith. It is the same merit which provided Israel's release from bondage and protected them all through their wilderness journey. It was not their prayers which delivered them from Egypt; it was the blood of that little lamb.

They did not pray to be delivered; they simply moaned because of their burdens and bondage and their groanings came up before God--not their prayers, and He came down to deliver them. When the blood got on the doors, God said they were delivered; and all they had to do was to get up and start on their journey.

Many of these people were ill in body, but they had to get up, eat the roast lamb in haste, gird their loins, and start out on a hike from midnight to daylight. What God told Israel to do that night, He tells us to do, and when we do it, Satan is done. Jesus Christ has conquered our sins, conquered our diseases, our enemies, our poverty, and broken every blockade, and snare, every trap of Satan to hinder us.

The first step after we realize that we have been exempt is Philippians 4:6,7. God says that if we resist the devil and refuse to have his oppressions, he will flee. This means every sickness, every oppression, every trouble, everything that people say and do to us, every burden, every financial difficulty; all we have to do is to say, "I will not have this another minute, I refuse to bear this any longer, I claim my Blood-bought rights in Jesus' name and I am determined to resist the devil steadfast in the faith.

"Be careful for nothing;" or "do not worry, do not permit yourselves to be burdened a moment about anything. "But in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." "Supplication" means "earnest pleading," to be determined and whole-hearted in seeking God. "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:13),

We should not mince matters in dealing with Satan, nor in dealing with God. If we are not receiving the deliverances and blessings desired, we should find out why. We should make a final decision to go thru in God's way; and then to make our requests known to Him without reserve. As we do that the devil is bound to be defeated with such a combination and we will receive perfect victory over every temptation and trial, which would come upon us spiritually, physically, or financially. We should strenuously refuse to have it and trust God to deliver us, without using the slightest human effort to merit that deliverance; believing it is wrought the moment we have prayed and step right out on the promise.

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