

PRIVILEGE OF DIVINE POWER!



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VIRTUAL

Much is said about privilege these days, but the greatest privilege anyone could have, is the privilege of trusting God and seeing a demonstration of His divine power! The Blood of Christ and His resurrection to life gives the *advantage* of *unlimited access* to the power of God. All that He *is*, and *has*, and can *do* for us is waiting to be given. Two men with two different attitudes proved that.

Three men were crucified that day—two thieves on each side and Jesus on the middle cross. Jesus was dying for the *sins of the world*; the other two were dying for the *sins in their life*. It could be thought a *privilege* to be beside Jesus—dying with our Savior—but only one took advantage of it.

One held to self and its attitudes until he died—sending himself to the Lake of Fire; but the other got rid of self and its rebellious attitudes—and being assured of his salvation. The repentant thief was taken from the *worst* position anyone could be in on earth—and to the *best* position of everlasting bliss in Heaven with His Savior. He just got *rid of rebellion* in his last moments.

One mocked the Lord—Luke 23:39-41, “*If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?*”

And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.” Jesus is blameless, innocent, and right; but we are guilty, rebellious, and wrong.

There are millions of people taking the side of the one who mocked Jesus—saying; *If God is powerful, loving, and kind, why are we going through so many troubles and trials; Why do bad things happen to good people! That is the attitude of the carnal nature.*

No one is innocent before God of themselves—He is not responsible for all the troubles, tragedies, and deaths in the world—because James 1:13 “*God cannot be tempted with evil.*” The reason for all of the horrible *things* in the world is our wrong *attitudes* and sinful *heart*. James 1:14 “*Every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.*”

The problem is ignoring *God* and going our *own way*—that is what causes bad things to happen. When God is left *out* of our life, Satan is allowed *in*—and he is always in disguise. Many *want* God’s healing and blessing, but they *don’t want* to repent nor forsake their sins. They play *games* with God’s Truth—which will *never* yield good results.

Only *God* knows our heart, and only *He* knows if we are sincere. Anyone can be healed, blessed, protected, or supplied by the divine power of God—no matter where they are in the world—but they will need a *heart-conversion first*; and then *trusting* God in faith *second*. Everyone can have the privilege of seeing His divine power work in their life.

If we are *oppressed* in body; *short* of supplies in our home; or going through a *stressful* situation, the responsibility for taking advantage of divine power is on our own shoulders. God is the Healer of our body, so we must *believe* that

and start *trusting* Him in faith. *That* is the privilege we have of experiencing His divine love, mercy, and power.

One thief forsook his evil ways and confessed his sins to Jesus—who being God, knew the man was willing to change. Isaiah 55:7 “*Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.*”

To *forsake our ways*, is to forsake our *unscriptural* thoughts and attitudes, and to accept God’s *scriptural* thoughts and attitudes. The *repentant* thief rebuked the *rebellious* thief Luke 23:40, “*Do you not even fear God?*” The *converted* thief realized how wrong it was to take things that belonged to someone else. They got away with it for a while, but Numbers 32:23 “*Be sure your sin will find you out.*” There were consequences for their wrong ways.

One thief *knew* that it was his *own* wrong ways and attitudes that led him to that awful place. He had loved the *life of the world* but was about to lose what he *tried to keep*. Matthew 16:26 “*For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?*” When we are willing to take the attitude of the repentant thief and to *admit* that *we* are the cause of our own troubles, we will begin to see *change, victory*, and divine power working for us.

John said to the Pharisees and Sadducees Matthew 3:7 “*O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?*” These outwardly religious people despised tax collectors, harlots, and Gentiles; yet Jesus said Matthew 21:31 “*That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.*”

Outright *sinner*s were more likely to repent than self-righteous *hypocrites*. Romans 8:34 “*Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right*

hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.
33 *It is God who justifies.*” The repentant thief
Luke 23:42-43 said, “*Lord, remember me when thou
comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto
him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be
with me in paradise.*”

We can hold on to our rebellious ways and attitudes until we land in the Pit; or we can forsake our evil ways and attitudes and see ourselves in Heaven. We are responsible to confess our sins and wrong ways to God, and responsible to accept His plan for our life—just as Jonah inside of a fish; just as this thief on the cross; and the same as the three Hebrews in a furnace—God will be there to protect us, if we will repent and trust Him in faith to do it.

Haman wanted to destroy the Jewish nation; but Mordecai held on to his faith in God through it all. The end result was that Haman was *hanged*; Mordecai was *promoted*, and the Jews were *protected*. That is how things work out, when we follow God’s plans.

Just by saying “*Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom,*” Jesus gave him salvation. God cannot *change* things for us until we are *willing* to change our attitudes and forsake our ways. The promise is to everyone who repents Luke 23:43 “*To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.*”

One held on to his rebellious attitude and went to the flames with Judas and Satan; the other gave up his rebellion and sins—going right to Heaven with Jesus forever—just because he *admitted* his sin and *forsook* his rebellion.

No matter what difficulty; tough situation; physical oppression, or home problem we may be going through, it came about from following our own plans and retaining Satan’s ways. It can all be changed by changing our plans, getting rid of the world’s plans, and accepting the divine plan—meeting everything according to the Word.

When we take our *lowly* place, and give God His *exalted* place, big changes will come about in our life—problems begin to diminish—but if we stubbornly hold on to the world’s attitudes and ways, we can find ourselves in the fire forever—with no chance to ever reverse that horrible fate!

On the opposite and positive side; if we are willing to give up our ways and ideas; and are willing to accept God’s Word and plan, He will begin to work in us; to change our *rebellion* to *submission*—He will take us from the *lowest* place, to an *exalted* place—His kingdom prepared for us.

Troubles have a human origin—as they did with Adam, Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar, Haman, and many others through time. When human plans and ways are *forsaken*, and God’s divine plans and ways are *accepted*, everything will change for the better.

The troubles in the world, and the problems within groups, are all caused by getting away from God’s Word. Most churches *say* they accept the *Virgin Birth* of Jesus; the *story of Creation*; and many *Bible miracles*, but do not think that today, they have the privilege of seeing divine power work in their life.

Many follow their own plans to get what they want. They do not take advantage of God’s plan to Philippians 4:6 “*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.*”

Privileged People: God is aware of what is going on—with four thousand years in preparing a plan for us—which is to make every request known to *Him*, and to eliminate all human plans of self. If God sees a willing heart in us, He will give us the opportunity to *accept* His Truth; to *empower* them to walk in the light of it; and to *save* them from eternal suffering.

Rejecting God’s *Word*, and accepting Satan’s *lie*, has caused all the trouble in the world.

If we reverse that, and take the position Adam and Eve *had* before they accepted the lie, we will *see* change in our life. We will get *back* to the Word and begin *trusting* God—which results in the desert blooming into an oasis—spiritually, physically, financially, and with everything.

When we ask God to reveal the spiritual *cause* of our troubles, we will see that it was the *human* element, and the *self* within us that *led* to the problems. God will convict us of these wrong ways and attitudes, and He will help us get rid of them.

We are to take every burden, problem, temptation, worry, trouble, or oppression to God in prayer—and allow His divine power to work for us, by eliminating any *human* power to do that work. We must take our rightful place, as the thief on the cross, die to self, and enter into a place of peace, rest, and victory.

Jonah was delivered from a horrible place inside the fish and proclaimed the Truth of God by the Power of God. When he was willing to let go of *his* plans and surrender to *God’s*. Jonah 2:8 “*They that observe lying vanities [cling to worthless idols] forsake their own mercy.*” Jonah was then instrumental in bringing thousands to repentance.

The demon-possessed man of Gadara was delivered from the devil’s power in minutes and sent on his way proclaiming God’s Truth. God has not changed, so if we will allow *Him* to change us, it could *happen* in a moment.

Romans 8:31-32 “*What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?*” And that promise includes a display of Divine Power!



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