

VIRTUAL

The power of God should never be in question-it is why we have answers to prayer and healing of afflictions. Divine power is available to the believer through the resurrection power of Christ. God approved of His offering by restoring Him to life. Now the *choice* we have is to place our faith in the power of God to restore us to a right fellowship with Him.

Jesus promised John 14:18 "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." He is with us in the presence of His Spirit and ready to do amazing things for us. Our part is our willingness to put our faith in the Atonement sacrifice He made. Romans 8:1 "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

Jesus said to not be troubled—John 14:1 "Ye believe in God, believe also in me;" which means trusting His divine power to restore and replenish. This is enabled by a Blood sacrifice—it is power to heal; to provide; to protect; and to prepare us for His kingdom.

The Holy Spirit inspires faith in us to trust on the resurrection power of God for all those things-including inner peace, avenging wrongs, and all other faith issues-without trusting on anything else.

When we accept Christ as our Lord and Savior, and we believe on the power in back of His name, we are made a child of God. John 1:12 "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on [trust in] his name." To believe in the Name of Christ is to trust the divine power of God that raised Him to life.

When God answers prayer-for protection, peace, divine wisdom or for anything else, all glory goes to Him only. When Jesus healed a man on the Sabbath, some were offended. If they had believed Christ, they would have glorified God. Jesus said John 5:23 "He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him." They had not met the basic requirement of faith-John 6:29 "That ye believe on him whom he hath sent."

The Word of God was not in them so the Spirit of God could not inspire them to believe and trust God. Jesus said John 5:37-38 "None of you have ever either heard His voice or seen what He is like. Nor have you His word dwelling within you, for you refuse to believe Him whom He has sent."

Believing in and trusting on the resurrection power of the living God is a salvation issue. John 5:39 "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me"-Scriptures like 1 Corinthians 15:4 "[Jesus] was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures."

Such important Scriptures must be read every day and believed every minute-like John 3:18 "He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the nameof the only begotten Son of God." We are responsible to believe in the power of God that makes all things possible.

We must be *enlightened* and *inspired* to believe what God's power will do for anyone who will trust Him in faith. Jesus said John 12:46 "I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness;" and John 12:47 "If any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world"—by faith in Him.

The apostle explained "For though [Christ] was crucified in weakness, yet He lives by the power of God" 2 Corinthians 13:4. A believer in Christ has access to the same power of God-for healing without medical help; for supplies without backup funds; for protection without security systems; for justice without court attorneys; and for victory over Satan's power by faith in the divine power of God.

We are told 2 Corinthians 13:5 "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves—[not others]. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?-unless indeed vou are disqualified [insincere]." We can disqualify ourselves by our choice not to trust the power of God-for health, healing, protection, provisions, justice and everything else-and instead make the wrong decision to trust on some alternative plan, power, pill, or process.

Romans 10:17 "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." When we hear the Word of God and accept the sacrifice of Jesus for the atonement of sin we need, the Holy Spirit then inspires us in faith to trust on the divine power in back of that Word.

The apostles informed the high priest that the power of God restored Jesus to life. "We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him" Acts 5:32. Anyone who refuses to believe in the divine power of God, will *forfeit* their spiritual blessings in *this* life and forfeit their divine *inheritance* in the *next* life—if no repentance is forthcoming.

Jesus said the hour is coming when there will be a resurrection—John 5:29 "They that have done good, to the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, to the resurrection of damnation"—judged and condemned because they chose not to believe *in*, and chose not to trust *on*, the divine *power* of the living God to restore them to spiritual life.

The *choice* to believe God is *first*, then the Holy Spirit inspires faith in our heart to trust on the Blood of Christ *second*. If we *profess* to have faith, but do not *act in faith* on the power of God—our faith is *invalid*, and our prayers will be *hindered*.

"Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action [obedience], is dead" James 2:17. Abraham's faith was valid because "His faith was co-operating with his actions, and that by his actions his faith was perfected" James 2:22.

A true believer does the will of God regardless of the risk involved. The Holy Spirit was sent to *open* our spiritual eyes to *see* what the divine power of God will do for us. Only God can *inspire* us in faith to really *trust* Him in faith. John 7:17 "If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God."

To trust the divine power of God instead of trusting the counterfeit plans of the world—for healing, protection, supplies, justice, security, guidance, and everything else—is the *choice* every individual must make if eternal life is their goal.

Keeping that position of faith and learning spiritual lessons of trust is to continue every day. John 15:6 "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned." Where we place our faith will determine where we spend our eternity! As God gives us another day, we will be given other opportunities to *trust* Him, and when they *are* presented, we will have the *choice* to trust on His divine power, or trust some *other* power. It is an *eternity issue*—because it is only *by* faith in the Blood of Christ that we enter His eternal Kingdom.

You were Colossians 2:12 "Raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead." God promises to deliver, restore, heal, provide, protect, and save our soul—if we will believe Him and trust Him for those vital needs.

The issue is *where* we place our *faith* when a situation *involving* faith is confronted. It is *connected* to eternal life. Jesus said, "*Most assuredly*" John 5:24 "*He who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life.*" God definitely *wants* us to trust Him in faith—but *that* is a decision *we* must make.

The divine power that raised Jesus to life, is the same divine power available today—for healing without drugs; for protection without weapons; for food without Welfare; for justice without avenging, and for salvation by a continuing faith in the divine power of God.

The issue is about *believing* and *trusting* on the *Blood* of Christ. John 5:24 "He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." God wants us to be healed, delivered, and supplied every day—and if we *choose* to believe, we will prove that to be true. Hebrews 10:23 "He who promised is faithful."

If we are oppressed physically, a decision has to be made on *where* to seek help. If we choose to trust on a doctor's prescription—instead of on the power of God, then we have John 3:18 "*Not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God*" and we would stand condemned. If money is needed, a decision must be made on *where* to obtain the cash—trust God in faith or borrow money from a bank. These are eternal life issues because it was an eternal life issue for those in the Bible. Luke 16:10 "*He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much.*" 13 "*No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.*"

The rich man Luke 16 had not taken care of his finances in a scriptural way. He said Luke 16:24 "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame."

There was no reversing that horrible situation after he left this life—and even though he wanted to help his family still on earth. Abraham could only say Luke 16:29 "*They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.*"

The young ruler Matthew 19 desired *eternal life* and had obeyed the Commandments, but Jesus said he *still* had a spiritual lack—of *not* trusting God for finances. The man could still *choose* and here is the plan Matthew 19:21 "*If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.*"

God has spoken Jeremiah 17:5 "Cursed is the man who trusts in man And makes flesh his strength, Whose heart departs from the LORD." There is hope, and we can change, because the Lord is always ready to forgive when we are ready to trust on the Power of God to Restore!

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