

# Principles Involved In Personal Deliverances

## PART 3

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*"But speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed."* What does that mean to us today? Have we ever taken account of stock and considered what we are really walking by—sight and feeling or by what God's Word says?

Beloved, as long as we walk by our plan of seeing and feeling, Satan can turn us about as he pleases; but the very moment we begin to walk by faith in the bare Word of God, his power will be broken, and he will be done.

Kindly notice how this works. Satan's plan and idea is to get your trouble between you and the Word.

What are we really and truly seeing? Are we seeing our troubles, seeing our difficulties, seeing our sins, are we seeing Satan in our homes, or wherever he may be lurking; or are we seeing what the Word of God says concerning these things?

Satan's combination is to keep our troubles between us and the Word; God's combination is to keep the Word between us and our troubles and every evil thing.

The very moment we do that and resist Satan steadfast in the faith, Satan is done. That is the reason Satan is continually calling our attention to our weaknesses and our lack of faith, our troubles, getting us to look at our diseases, our aches and pains; because he desires to hide the Word of God from our view, to bury it beneath our troubles, hide it beneath our oppressions; he desires to overwhelm us with these things, so we will not even have time to hunt for the Word.

Satan will magnify and multiply our troubles and increase them every moment, in order to get them between us and the Word; that is the reason it is written that "we are to walk by faith" and not sight and feeling.

That is also what the centurion meant by his speech, "Lord, if you say my servant is well, I am perfectly willing to believe it; hence, there is no use your coming to my house to see him."

Such an attitude always brings forth an answer of this kind— *"Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee."* (Matthew 8:13)

Kindly notice, this man went home with that Word between him and his servant; he kept looking at that servant through the Word, and he could not see anything but a well man; and it turned out just as Jesus said. He had a big spy glass of faith, and he turned it on that house and refused to see anything but a well servant.

The nobleman wanted to see signs and wonders and Jesus exposed that condition, before he could believe for his son's healing. We need to bring this inward machinery out and see why we are not delivered, to see where the Word is, what place it has in our lives, what we are doing with the promises of God, what our attitude to that Word really is; whether it is buried beneath our troubles, difficulties, poverty, disease, aches and pains, family troubles.

Beloved, we can bury all these things beneath the promises. It is just for us to say which shall be on top, the trouble or the promises. We can make a choice to have the troubles buried beneath the promises or allow Satan to bury the promises beneath the troubles. We can place the promises of God on top and keep them between us and our troubles.

Whose word are we basing our hopes upon, God's or Satan's? Whose word are we accepting as true? It is written that God's Word is to be our shield and buckler, if we would walk successfully.

*"Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe. The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die."* (John 4:48-49)

He did not receive any more than the Word— *"Go thy way; thy son liveth."* "Your son is well." It is written that the man believed the Word; he put that Word between him and that boy's condition; he looked miles ahead of him to that boy through that Word and saw him well. We look through telescopes to look at the stars, so this man looked through his telescope of faith and saw a well boy.

Remember it was only through the Word: if he had taken that Word away and began to think how bad the boy was when he left home, Satan would have been able to defeat him. Do not think that Satan was out of business at that time; I am sure he pictured the servants running to tell him that his son was dead; but he kept that Word

between him and every discouraging thing that Satan advanced to him. As he did that, the disease was killed instantly, and that boy was restored to perfect health and strength, through the power of the Word of God.

Now we have an illustration of seeing the Word in the 5th chapter of Luke where Peter and James were fishing at the shore of the lake; they were on the beach washing nets. Jesus Christ came and borrowed Peter's boat to use while speaking to the people. After He was through speaking, He said— ***"Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught."***

Jesus meant— "There are fish beneath those waters, although you can neither see nor feel them." Their experience would prove that there were no fish there.

Satan works this to perfection on us today. He causes our nose to be stuffed up, the chills begin to crawl up and down our back, and then he whispers— "You are going to have a cold!" The devil then causes us to think, "Well, colds are prevalent just now, I presume I will have to accept it; I wonder how long it will last?" "The last one you had lasted nine or ten days; probably two weeks, for you know they seem to be much aggravated this year." You never dream that Satan is anywhere near you; but the whole thing is from him.

According to sight, feeling, and all the knowledge these fishermen possessed, there were no fish in that water that night; and the devil suggested to them that they were exceedingly foolish to follow such advice from one who had absolutely no experience in fishing.

***"Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless, at thy word I will let down the net."***

Beloved, many of us have toiled all night and taken nothing spiritually; many of us have toiled all night and taken nothing physically; likewise, we have toiled all night financially, and still, we do not have what we desire. Some of us have "toiled all night" in our homes, worrying, fretting, and doubting, wondering whether our loved ones will be saved or not. With all this we "have taken nothing."

All the while God has a wonderfully easy plan, which is to not walk by sight and feeling, but by simple faith in the bare Word of God.

Peter practically said— "According to my experience there are no fish there, but according

to your word, I will let down the net." Peter laid aside his experience and looked at that water through the Word of Jesus Christ, and not what he could see and feel with his natural eyes; he sized up the situation through the Word of Jesus Christ, and he saw fish there. He placed that Word between him and the water.

Satan tried to get Peter to see nothing but mud and no possibility of fish anywhere around; but Peter kept his head above water by believing and putting his whole confidence in that Word; he kept himself above the winds and waves through the Word of Jesus Christ.

***".....nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net."***

Returning to the centurion, he received a through ticket to Heaven, and the nobleman had his whole house saved and brought into the Truth at once by putting the Word in its proper place. However, Peter had a greater experience, we might say, for he enclosed a great multitude of fishes.

Beloved, God has a multitude of fishes for us spiritually; He has a multitude of fishes for us physically and also financially; He has great success for us in the matter of trouble; He has a multitude of fishes concerning our peace; for the salvation of our loved ones and the peace for our home; our troubles will end. He also has a multitude of fish for us in the workshop, including employment for those who are out of work.

However, this is all on one condition that we lay aside our experience—as Peter did—what we can see and feel and put our whole confidence in the Word of God. When Peter received the command to let down his net for a draught, he obeyed, and I tell you with that obedience there came a great change in his life.

***"When Simon Peter saw it, (the multitude of fishes) he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord."***

"Lord, you do not know what kind of a man you are associating with; I am not fit to be in your presence." That was some conviction, was it not?

"You had better depart from me, for I am a bad man; if you knew what kind of a man I am, what a crooked stick I am, how much short weight I have given people in dealing out fish, and some of the fish I sold would probably not pass the 'pure food law'; once in a while I have a quarrel with my mother-in-law also, and then again we throw dice, I have also been looking at other women; I guess

you do not know just what a bad man I am; this is the first day you met me; I am not fit to be in your company."

He meant what he said; he was not ashamed to confess his true condition before Jesus Christ.

Jesus assured him there was nothing to be afraid of; that everything concerning his past life was forgiven and cleansed; and that from henceforth he was to be a happy man, filled with God's peace and righteousness and was to be a catcher of men.

He told Peter he was to have a new profession; he was to catch men instead of fish. I do not wonder that he forsook his boat and nets and followed Jesus. They received the grandest position that it is possible to have either in earth or Heaven, as there is nothing like sharing the everlasting riches of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. All this was the result of getting the Word of Jesus Christ between them and those fish. Satan's plan is to get our condition between us and the Word. We can place the Word of God between us and our condition in one moment of time.

The first thing is to confess our ignorance and unbelief and ask God to cleanse us and forgive us, telling Him that His Word says He does the work when we ask, and that is all the evidence that we desire.

When our rebellion has been confessed and forsaken, and we have consecrated our lives to God, the Word says they became holy and acceptable unto Him.

*"I BESEECH you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."* (Romans 12; 1-2)

Then we are to take, and maintain the position Paul tells us in Romans 6:11— *"Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

Now listen to what Satan says— "What do you mean; you want to tell me that you are dead to sin!"

"Yes sir; I am dead indeed unto sin right now, I am cleansed through the Blood of Jesus Christ, and God's Word says I am holy and

acceptable, and I believe it." If we hold steady in that belief, we will experience great blessing.

It is just the same with healing. We are to ask for healing in the name of Jesus Christ. Just as the nobleman was told to go his way, that his son was living, so we are told that we are well after we have asked in Jesus' name. What is our attitude toward that Word, is that evidence of that Word enough for you to base your faith and confidence on? If it is, it will bring healing and deliverance.

If we pray for our homes, what do we see in our homes; are you believing the Word of God, or the conditions in your home? Many times have we prayed and then looked wholly at conditions instead of seeing that home through the Word of God, which says there is a change for the better as soon as we pray, If we see our homes changed through the Word, results will be accomplished at once.

It is the same with getting a job and getting money. Our attitude is usually— "I wonder if I will get a job; I wonder when I will get it." After praying for a job, we should take the position that the brother and sister did, who were living by faith, as the brother was out of work.

They had a limited meal for dinner, and one of them suggested that it would be nice if they had some soup for dinner. So, they decided to get down and ask God for it. Then the wife set the table, got the soup dish, soup ladle, and the soup bowls and began to dip out of the dish with the ladle just as if they had real soup.

Just then there was a knock at the door, and someone said, "Would you be insulted if I gave you some soup? Somehow, we made more than we needed for dinner, and I thought perhaps you would like to have some." So, they had the real article to serve for dinner, just because they believed God's Word.



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