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TWO COVENANTS

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TWO COVENANTS

In the Old Testament the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, and with Judah. Within this covenant was the Law of Moses; which also contained the ten commandments. The covenants began with Abraham. In Genesis 15:18 it says, **“In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates.”**

The possession of land was a part of the covenant the LORD made with the children of Israel. But, for the children of God today (born again of the Word and the Spirit), the LORD made a new covenant, “sealed in His blood.”

In comparison, when the LORD gave the children of Israel the possession of land, He required of them that, they should go in and possess the land He promised to them. Yet, He did not say they should possess the land by their own ability. He said in Exodus 23:23, **“For mine Angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites: and I will cut them off.”**

In Exodus 23:27-30, He said,

I will send my fear before thee, and will destroy all the people to whom thou shalt come, and I will make all thine enemies turn their backs unto thee.

And I will send hornets before thee, which shall drive out the Hivite, the Canaanite, and the Hittite, from before thee.

I will not drive them out from before thee in one year; lest the land become desolate, and the beast of the field multiply against thee.

By little and little I will drive them out from before thee, until thou be increased, and inherit the land.

The LORD promised them the land, and then promised to go before them and drive out all the inhabitants, little by little. Yet, THEY were to possess the land themselves.

Now we have a similar covenant. Our covenant is not for land like that of Israel. We are to possess our souls and bodies. We are to drive out all sickness and disease, all sin and iniquity. Romans 12:1 says, **“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.”**

If there is evidence of anything in our bodies that is not holy and acceptable to God we are to drive it out, using the name of Jesus and the power of the Spirit of God. **“By the power of the Spirit of God and in the name of Jesus we command every work of the devil to leave our bodies and never return.”**

Ephesians 5:30 says, **“For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.”** Our bodies are His body, our bones are His bones, our flesh is His flesh; therefore, we must present them pure and holy unto God.

In Genesis 1:26, **“God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.”** The word “dominion” includes in it’s meaning “to rule over.”

We are to rule over all the earth. Our bodies are made of the earth; they are earthly, of this earth (1 Cor. 15:47). Everything that is of the earth is under our dominion. Now, that we are sons and daughters of God through the new birth, we have power over the enemy. In Luke 10:19, Jesus said, **“Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”**

Who is this enemy that we have power over? In 1 Corinthians 10:3 it says, **“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh.”** Then in 1 Corinthians 10:4, it explains, **“(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.)”** Ephesians 6:12 says, **“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”** Our enemy is not anything that we can see with our natural eyes. But, rather “principalities, powers, and rulers of the darkness of this world.”

Demonic spirits are at work in our bodies and in our minds to cause us to go against the perfect will of God. By thoughts and manifestations in our bodies they try to get control of our lives. If we yield ourselves to their control, we become their servants. Romans 6:16 says, **“Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”**

When we permit the spirits of this world to have a place in our minds or our bodies, we become servants to them, and they become our master. We should have only one master, that is God, working in and through us by His Word and His Spirit.

By the Word of God and the power of the Spirit of God we are to take authority over the works of the devil and destroy every evil work in our minds and bodies. Our weapons are not carnal, but mighty through God... By the words we speak everything shall be established. In power and authority, we speak to the spirits that try to inhabit our minds and our bodies and command them to leave and never return. Every evil spirit must be driven out by the power of the Spirit of God in the name of Jesus.

There is power in the name of Jesus. Every spirit, every sickness, every disease must go when we use the name of Jesus against them. Their power is broken by the Spirit of God in the name of Jesus. When we speak to them, using the name of Jesus, the Spirit of God causes them to obey. They have no choice but to obey the Word of God when the Spirit of God comes against them. The Holy Spirit always confirms the Word of God. By the words we speak, the Holy Spirit acts and the works of the devil are destroyed.

How do we know they will leave when we command them to go? Because Jesus said we have power over them, and they cannot hurt us (Luke 10:19). Jesus said, *“He gave us power over them.”* Jesus cannot lie, for He is the truth (John 14:16). Truth is truth, and truth cannot lie. Whatsoever Jesus said to do, do it!

The children of Israel had a covenant with the LORD. Their covenant was for land, that they were to go in and possess. We have a better covenant with the LORD. Our covenant is based upon better promises (Heb. 8:6-12). In our covenant we are to possess our bodies and minds. In the New Testament we are told how to do this.

In 1 Peter 1:23, it says, **“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”** In John 3:6, it says, **“That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.”** Being, we are born again of the Word of God and the Spirit of God, we have spiritual powers that the children of Israel did not have. We can possess our bodies and minds, by the Word of God and the power of the Holy Spirit working in us and through us.

In Romans 12:1 it says, **“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.”** The Children of Israel were given land to possess. We have been given bodies to possess. By the power of the Holy Spirit working in us and through us we are to possess our bodies and minds.

There is a type and shadow of this in the Old Testament, and if we follow it over into the New Testament we will see the parallel. The tabernacle and temple were designed similarly. They had a courtyard, which represents our physical bodies. In the courtyard everyone could enter, even those who were not children of Israel. There they presented themselves before the priest and there they brought in their sacrifices and offerings. That which was acceptable to the LORD was separated from that which was not acceptable. That which was acceptable was kept and used by the priests, that which was not acceptable was cast out. Our bodies do the same thing. All kinds of foods and liquids and gases enter our bodies. That which is acceptable for nourishment and health is kept and that which is not acceptable is cast out.

Then there was the holy room. The holy room was where the candlestick, the table, and the shewbread were. There certain priests could enter to burn incense, and there is where the candle sticks were that had to burn continually day and night, cakes were baked and set in the holy room, and there Aaron and his sons ate. Only, certain priests were allowed to come into the holy room. This is a type and shadow of the soul of man, between the courtyard and the holy of holies.

For the born again Christian, their living soul is translated from the flesh to the spirit (Rom. 8:9). They were in the flesh (Rom. 7:5), but now they are in the spirit. Our mind, intellect, will, etc. are in our soul. Therefore, the soul of man represents the holy room in the temple.

Next there was the holy of holies, where the high priest could enter only once a year to make sacrifice for the children of Israel. The veil of the temple divided between the holy room and the holy of holies. Beyond the veil is where the golden censer, the ark of the covenant, the golden pot that had manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant. Over the ark of the covenant were two cherubims made of gold and between them was the mercy seat. In the holy of holies is where God dwelt, and only the high priest could enter once a year to make atonement for the souls of the people. The spirit of man is like unto the holy of holies where God dwells (in those who are born again), where God communicates with man's soul. The spirit of man is called "**the candle of the LORD**" (Prov. 20:27).

So there were three parts to the tabernacle and the temple, the courtyard, the holy room and the holy of holies, and there three parts to man, the physical body, the soul, and the spirit.

In 1 Corinthians 6:19, it says, "**What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?**"

Jesus said in John 2:19, "**Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**" In John 2:21 it explains, "**But he spake of the temple of his body.**" Jesus' body was the temple of the Holy Ghost. A Christian's body is the temple of the Holy Ghost. We are to possess our bodies, and present them a living sacrifice unto the LORD (Rom. 12:1). In the same way, Jesus set an example. In John 2:13-16, it tells us that Jesus made Himself a scourge of small cords, and use it to drive out of the temple the sheep, the oxen, and overthrew the tables of the money changers. Those things that were not acceptable in the temple, Jesus drove out. Then Jesus said, "**Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise**" (John 2:16). There was another time when Jesus drove out the money changers. In Matthew 21:12,13, it says,

And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves,

And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

Learning to do the works of Jesus

As Christians, we must learn to do the works that Jesus said we should do. There are ways to improve the effectiveness of what we do and how we do it.

One of the first things we should understand is that repeating the Word of God over and over will instill knowledge within ourselves. Thereby, we will not be destroyed for a lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6). In Joshua 1:8, the LORD said to Joshua, **“This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”**To prosper in what we do and have good success, continuously speaking that which the Word of God tells us will help tremendously. The word “depart” in this verse means, “shall not stop.” The word “meditate” in the Hebrew includes in it’s meaning “to speak, over and over.” If we will speak over and over the Word of God, it will become established in our minds and in our hearts. Once it is established in our minds and in our hearts it will become effective in our lives.

Along with speaking the Word of God over and over, it helps to renew our minds on the Word of God. Romans 12:2 says, **“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.”** God has a perfect will for us here on earth. That perfect will is that we live and move in the image of Jesus. In 1 Corinthians 15:49 says, **“And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.”**

Everything Jesus did, we should do also. Jesus said, **“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father”** (John 14:12). In order to do the works that Jesus did, we must renew our minds, that we are no longer conformed to this world; but rather, transformed into believing in our hearts and minds that whatsoever the Word of God says is true.

Believing that the Word of God is true, even when our minds do not understand it will help us to do the works that Jesus did. One quick example of doing what the Word of God says, even when our mind does not agree is what happened the first time I prayed for two other people to have their arms come out to the right length. Before I prayed, my mind was saying, “it will never work.” Mark 16:17 says, **“And these signs shall follow them that believe...”**I didn’t believe in my mind because the thought that it will never work kept going through my mind. I was 100% sure, beyond all doubt, that it would not work. (That was the devil trying to stop me from praying). When I said, “in the name of Jesus I command this arm to come out to the same length as the other,” it came out. God’s Word always works, regardless of the thoughts the devil puts in our minds.

We must overcome the thoughts the devil puts in our minds by renewing our minds on the Word of God. One way to renew our minds on the Word of God is through repeated speaking the Word of God out of our mouth. In doing so, we become so familiar with the Word of God that it

becomes like second nature to us. It becomes natural for us to speak the Word of God over situations, sickness, and disease. Whenever we come to any work of the devil, we automatically speak the Word of God over it and Satan is defeated by the words we speak.

The Word of God is our “sword of the Spirit” that defeats the devil every time we use it (Eph. 6:17). Every time we command the works of the devil to stop, they stop. Every time we command healing in the bodies of individuals, they get healed. Every time we command demons to leave a person they go. Why, because the Word of God is the weapon that we use to destroy the works of the devil.

In Matthew 8:5-8, there was a centurion that came to Jesus. He said that “*his servant lieth at home sick of the palsy.*” When he told Jesus of his servants condition, Jesus said, “**I will come and heal him.**” The centurion knew the power of words spoken in authority, and he said to Jesus, “**speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.**”

When a person who has authority speaks, things happen. Christians need to understand what authority they have, and then use that authority “by speaking the Word only”! In Matthew 12:37, Jesus said, “**For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.**”

Christians need to be very careful what words they speak, who they speak them to, and what they believe in their heart before they speak. These things are all necessary, before they speak.

Words are powerful. Words can change things. Words can create things. Words can destroy things. Everything that exists was created by Words. Psalm 33:6 says, “**By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.**” Hebrews 11:3 says, “**...the worlds were framed by the word of God.**”

When the centurion said to Jesus, “**speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed,**” he knew who he was as a centurion in the Roman army, and he knew who Jesus was, and the power of His Word. Christians need to know who Jesus is and the power of His Word. *They also need to know who they are in Christ and the power of their words.*

When Jesus went around healing people, many times it happened like in Matthew 9:35, where it says, “**And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.**” Notice, Jesus did not say to these people, “your faith hath made you whole,” or “according to your faith,” etc. No, it tells us, “He healed them all.” Jesus did the healing, “by His faith, they were made whole.”

Some people do not have enough faith on their own to be healed. Christians can speak the Word over another person and by the faith of the one doing the speaking, the other person will be healed. James 5:14,15 tells us that the prayer of faith by the elders will heal the sick. It doesn't say

the sick person has to have faith. It only says the elders must have faith.

Many people have received healing by another persons faith, but when the devil comes back at them, they loose their healing. Let me give you an example of a good friend and brother in the LORD. For years, he had emphysema, he carried an oxygen tank with him wherever he went. One time, there was a brother in the LORD speaking at the church he went to. At the end of the meetings, he prayed for the sick. For almost a week my friend attended the meetings, and hearing about how the LORD wanted to heal everyone. He was starting to understand what was being taught.

One morning he called me up by him, all excited. He said, “Merle, I never realized that I was healed until this morning. I woke up and found out that the oxygen hose was disconnected all night long. I must have rolled over and pulled the hose loose. When I woke up and looked, it came to me, I don’t need the oxygen! I am healed!” The next day, he told his doctor that he didn’t need the oxygen, and even some of the pills he had been taking. The doctor ran some test and could not find any emphysema. He told the doctor, “the LORD healed him”! For about a month he went without any oxygen or pills and he felt fine.

Yet, he did not have the Word in him to know what to do when the devil comes back at him after he was healed. After about a month with no oxygen, he caught a cold in his chest. He did not use the Word of God, speaking with authority against the cold as he should have. Instead, he thought that if he would use some oxygen for a little while, and take some medication, the cold would go away. “When we trust in the world system, over the Word of God, the LORD cannot help us.” It ended up that after a few weeks all the signs of the emphysema had come back. Within a year or so later he died of emphysema. Why? What he believed in his heart and the words he spoke took their course. Had he continued to speak the Word only, and believe in his heart that what Jesus said is true, the symptoms of the cold would have left and he would still have been healed.

When you deal with sickness or disease, you are dealing with the devil. The devil is a liar (John 8:44), and he has all sorts of tricks to get you to believe him. The Word of God spoken in authority, and relied upon, and hidden in our heart will defeat the devil every time. My friend was healed on the faith of the person who was speaking and praying for people at the meetings. But, his own faith was not there to keep his healing.

When an elder prays the prayer of faith, whosoever they pray for does get healed. The manifestation may not come immediately, but it will come.

I had a similar situation in 1988. For years my teeth would brake off just below the gums. They were like chalk, and parts would brake off while eating. By 1988, I had a lot of teeth that were broken off below the gum line. My dentist did everything he could to put pins in the remaining part of my teeth and put a cap on them. After many years of problems with my teeth I decided to have them all taken out and false teeth made.

I went into a hospital to have him pull all my teeth. The teeth were so brittle that every tooth

broke off and he had to dig them out of the jaw bone. Even parts of the jaw bone broke off. I was in the operating room for three hours. Whereas, if things would have gone all right, it would have not been over one hour.

After coming out from under the anesthesia, the nurse kept asking me, “do you want anything for pain”? I kept telling her “I don’t have any pain”! For about four hours I was in the recovery room, and at least four or five times the nurse asked me “do you want anything for pain”? I kept telling her, “I don’t have any pain”! Then my son picked me up to take me home. That was on a Thursday. On Friday, I went back to my dentist’s office and he checked everything over and took out some of the stitches. Then he asked me, “should I write you a prescription for pain”? I told him, “I don’t have any pain”! The next day, a Saturday morning, I went back to the dentist’s office and he again checked my mouth and took out more stitches. Three times that morning he asked me if I wanted a prescription for pain pills. I kept telling him, I don’t have any pain.

Just before I left his office that morning, he asked me once more, this time saying, “you won’t be able to call me until Monday morning, so if you would let me, I will write you a prescription for pain pills. You can always go to a drug store and get it filled, if you need it.” I told him, I don’t have any pain, but if he wanted to he could write the prescription and I would take it along home. That was my biggest mistake.... That evening the pain came. It was the worst pain I ever had in my life. I got the prescription filled and took all the pills and the pain never left up. I prayed and did everything I could think of and the pain never left up. I called different people to pray with me and it wasn’t until Wednesday evening that a brother in the LORD came over about 10:00 PM and prayed with me that the pain started to leave. It still took about three days before the pain was gone.

At that time I did not know what I know today. I didn’t know that the pain was not from the pulling of my teeth, even though that is where the pain was. It was a “spirit of pain,” sent by the devil. My faith was let down when I received the prescription for pain pills. I did not have any pain at the time I received the prescription, had I refused the prescription I would not have had any pain.

Some people may ask, how do you know it was a spirit of pain, and not from the pulling of the teeth? Any doctor or nurse will tell you, the pain will be there when you come out of the operating room, and will continue until healing takes over. That is why the nurse kept asking me if I wanted anything for pain? She could not understand why I didn’t have any pain. If you believe the Word of God concerning pain, you will not have any pain. Jesus bore all our pain in His body on the Cross. Believing the Word of God before pain comes will prevent pain from coming.

Once you open the door by letting down your faith, Satan will send a spirit of pain. When a spirit of pain comes, we must command it to leave in the name of Jesus and it will go. Just praying for a spirit of pain to leave won’t work. That spirit must be commanded to leave, and it will leave.

Many Christians have faced the same situation as I did, maybe not from having teeth pulled, but from some other type of sickness or disease. They are healed, they have no pain, then comes “a spirit of pain” and they make the same mistake I made. Instead of standing on the Word of God and

commanding the spirit to leave, they go back to medication, or some other means of relieving the symptom. Satan has many tricks he uses to convince us we should go back to the world system for our relief from pain, sickness, or disease. The Word of God still works the best, and cost the least. Jesus bore all our pain and sickness for us on the Cross! If we will believe and not doubt, sickness and pain will have to leave our bodies, they can't stay.

Let me give you another example of speaking the Word in faith. I was at another friends house one day when the clouds kept coming in darker and darker, looking as though it was going to rain. My friend is a farmer, and it had rained so much that he was not able to get his crops planted. He didn't need anymore rain at that time, so he walked outside, facing the clouds and commanded the sun to shine. Within less than an half-hour, the clouds were gone and the sun was shining. The words he spoke with authority caused the clouds to go another direction and it did not rain at that time. But, you know what happened? About eight hours latter, in the evening he was not paying any attention to the weather and the clouds came back, and that time it rained. If he had gone out again and commanded the rain to go elsewhere it would not have rained. That is the way the devil acts when it comes to sickness and disease. You get healed by the Word of God, and latter the devil comes back with the same symptoms and if you do not use the Word of God against the symptoms they will manifest, and the thing that came upon you the first time will come back. Once you are healed by the Word of God, you must continue to speak the Word of God every time the symptoms come back. It's the Word of God that will produce the manifestation of healing in your body the first time you speak the Word in faith. But you must continue to speak the Word in faith to keep your healing. If you waver, you will be like a branch in the wind. You will not keep your healing.

In my own life, over the past 20 years or so, arthritis has tried to take hold of my body. Ever since I have been born again, I spoke against arthritis. I refuse to let it have any place in my body. Every time there is any feeling in my joints like that of arthritis, I immediately speak against it, using the name of Jesus and confessing, by His stripes I am healed. The symptoms of arthritis leave within a short time as I speak with authority against the symptoms. Even today, I still do not have any arthritis in any of my joints; I've refused to let the devil inflict me with arthritis. James 4:7 says, **“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”**

How do you submit yourselves to God? Did you know you cannot submit yourself to God without submitting yourself to the Word of God first? Many Christians try to submit themselves to God without first submitting to His Word and it doesn't work. They fail to obtain what they desire because they do not submit to the Word of God first.

There is a sequence we must follow to obtain anything from God. God the Father is over all things, and He has put His Son in control over this creation. The Son of God does nothing of Himself, He does only that which He receives from His Father (John 5:19, 12:49). The Father has given us His Word, through His Son. But to receive from God that which He has promised we must go through the Son. Jesus said, **“no man cometh unto the Father, but by me”** (John 14:6). Jesus is the Word of God. No man can come to the Father but by the Word of God. When we submit to the Word of God, we can come to the Father through the Word and receive whatsoever He has

promised.

But, there is another thing, “we must resist the devil” if we want him to flee. I like what I heard another brother in the LORD tell me about things like this. He said, someone was praying in the Spirit one day and the LORD spoke to him, saying, “what are you going to do about the fires in one of the western States”? He said to the LORD, “what do You mean LORD? What are YOU going to do about those fires”? The LORD said back to him, “I put YOU in authority on earth, now, what are YOU going to do about them”?

The LORD has put the body of Christ in authority on the earth, if anything is going to be done about the works of the devil, the Christians will have to do it. God just sits back and watches while the devil destroy’s all over this earth, sickness, disease, storms, all sorts of works of destructions. God usually doesn’t do anything about them unless Christians take the authority they have and use it “according to the Word of God.” Jesus gave authority to “all Christians” over “all the works of the devil” (Luke 10:19). Now it is up to Christians all over the world to take that authority and use it to destroy the works of the devil. Don’t give any place for the devil in your life, or in the lives of others. **“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you”** (James 4:7).

The devil doesn’t give up easily, therefore, we must never give up. When we speak “the Word only,” in authority, it is done. Whatsoever we say comes to pass (maybe not immediately, but it does come to pass) “if we continue to resist the devil.” If we speak the Word once and then forget about it, the devil may come immediately and steal the Word which we have sown (Mark 4:15). We must be persistent in what we do. We must continue to speak the Word, and then the devil will flee. Once is not always enough to keep the devil on the run, so be persistent, and continue to speak the Word.

Jesus said in Mark 11:23, **“For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.”** The word “say” means “command.” *“Whatsoever you command, and not doubt in your heart, shall be according to what you command.”* Jesus put us in authority here on earth. That authority is carried out by what we command, using the Word of God, speaking from our heart.

Let me bring out another point of interest, a very important point. The New Testament teaches the LOVE of God. It emphasizes the love of God. In 1 Corinthians 13:2, it says, **“And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity (Love), I am nothing.”** The love of God is different than the love of man. The love of God must have a completed circle to be effective. It must come from God and return to God. If it is broken at any point it will not be effective. God pours out His love on mankind, but unless man responds back to God in the same love, it is not effective. God loves the whole world, and His Son gave His life for the whole world. But, the only ones that will benefit are those who will return His love to Him, completing the circle.

Broken love will fail, but completed love will endure forever.

When we love God the way He loves us, love will prevail over all other manifestations, including the gifts of the Spirit (1 Cor. 13:2, 13). In 1 Corinthians 13:13, it says, **“And now abideth faith, hope, charity (Love), these three; but the greatest of these is charity (Love).”** Many times the Gospels tell us of Jesus, and that He healed multitudes. They say, He had “compassion” upon them and healed them. The word “compassion,” comes from another Greek word, included in it’s meaning is “inward affection, + tender mercy.” When Christians have an inward affection and tender mercy for those who are victims of sickness or disease, or any other works of the devil, they are more effective in their prayers, and commanding the works of the devil to cease.

The love of God brings the mercy of God upon those who need deliverance from the works of the devil. I know from experience, that when you can feel the hurt, and pain, of an individual who is in need of prayer, your prayers will be answered much faster. I believe that is why many times we receive a word of knowledge concerning an individual before we pray. “This word of knowledge comes by an inward knowing of a condition of an individual, by feeling the same pain as they feel.” When this happens, almost every time we pray, our prayer is answered; or every time we command Satan and his spirits to leave, they leave.

Love covers a multitude of sins. In 1 Peter 4:8, it says, **“And above all things have fervent charity (Love) among yourselves: for charity (Love) shall cover the multitude of sins.”** When we love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and body, God answers every prayer. Love, causes us to obey every Word of God, and be doers of the Word and not hearers only. When we love one another, God moves with compassion and mercy, and heals whatsoever needs healing.

The love of God brings people to repentance, not the wrath of God. When we walk in love, others will come to us for prayer, and receive, because the love of God will flow through us.

As our mind is renewed on the Word of God, it becomes effective to the pulling down of strongholds and destroying the works of the devil. If we let the thoughts of our mind stop us from speaking the Word of God, nothing will happen, the works of the devil will not be destroyed. But, if we renew our mind on the Word of God, Satan will have no power over us.

What about man’s dominion on earth? In Genesis 1:26 it says, **“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.”** Who did God give dominion to? Did He give it to Adam, or did He give it to all mankind, male and female?

God said, “Let them have dominion.” “Them” is plural, meaning two or more. By this it is evident that dominion was not given to Adam alone, but to all mankind, male and female. In Genesis 1:27 it says, **“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”** Here it tells us God created “man,” male and female. It also tells us

that when God created man, He created “them,” not just “him.”

Everything God said and did about dominion included “male and female,” not just Adam. If we look up the word man used in verses 26 and 27 we will find that it is Strong’s number 120, which pertains to mankind in general; whereas Strong’s number 121 pertains to one individual or a city by the name of Adam. Therefore, when God created man, He created them male and female and gave them “all mankind” dominion.

Dominion in the Hebrew means “reign or rule, to tread down.” In English, dominion means “supreme authority.” Thereby, God gave man, male and female, supreme authority to reign and rule on earth, over all that is listed in these, and the following verses: which includes, the fowl of the air, the cattle, all of the earth, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Now, let us make this a little more personal, getting right down to the root of things. When God gave man dominion, He gave you and I dominion, just as much as He gave Adam dominion. We are a part of “man,” mankind. We were included when God gave man dominion. We are still included among all those who God gave dominion. Every person born into this world was given dominion at the same time, right from the beginning. Therefore, you and I were also given dominion right from the beginning, even though we didn’t come into this world until we were born of the flesh, by the will of our parents.

This dominion operates by the Words we speak and what we believe in our heart. We must agree with God’s Word if we want to have power over all spirits of this world. God gave dominion to all mankind right from the beginning. You and I were given dominion at the same time Adam and Eve were given dominion. We have the same choice Adam and Eve had; we can eat of the tree of life, or we can eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The tree of life will produce the life of God in us. Continuously eating of the tree of life will cause us to grow and mature in the things of God. Whereas, eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil will cause us to die. Continuously eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil will cause us to love the world and the things of this world more than we love the LORD!

The snares of the devil are all around us. He has many tricks he uses to stop us from taking dominion over all the works of the enemy. Our eyes become blinded by the world and the things of this world.

What can we do when we find ourselves taken in Satan’s snare, when the cares of this world become more important than the Word of God, and the call of God on our lives?

It’s time to search our hearts and see, what is it that drew us away? What did Satan use to get us to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil? God has provided a way of return to our first love. Once we know the wiles of the devil, we still have the Cross of Calvary.

Repent, change our ways, get our eyes back on Jesus. Confess our sins, and walk in the light

as He is in the light. Do as Paul said, “*set those things behind that so easily pull us back, and press on toward the mark of the high calling in Christ Jesus*” (Phil. 3:13,14).

God gave us dominion, power, and authority over everything upon this earth. We have power and authority over our mind, our flesh, and all the works of the devil. But this power and authority is only good if we use it. We must continue to use it, day and night, if we are to be successful in the things of God. If we let up, and eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, it can overtake us.

We must trust in, and rely upon, the Word of God and the power of the Holy Spirit within us. Never let up, continue to press on in for the high calling in Christ Jesus. Be a doer of the Word, not a hearer only.

God has given us the victory over all the works of the devil. If we are persistent and don't look back we will win every time. But, first we must search our heart to find what is it that gets us to look back and miss the mark? Our heart is the most important area of our lives. What is the desires of our heart? We have been given dominion (Gen. 1:26-28). We can have the desires of our heart (Mark 11:23,24).

It is the desires of our heart that will set our course, even after we are born again and filled with the Spirit. God will not go against our will. He will give us the desires of our heart. We can have what we say... But, be careful of what we say, and what desires we have in our heart; they can lead to destruction.

Every day, we should search our hearts and know what is the desire of our heart? For Jesus said, “**What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them**” (Mark 11:24).

The word “desire” is a much stronger word than the words “want, or hope.” When you desire something you are willing to go to the extremes to obtain it, nothing else matters more than what you desire. Many people think they desire something, but they are unwilling to go to the extremes to obtain what they desire.

The word “pray” also means “command.” If you command something you expect to get it. If you only ask, your expectation could waver, like the wind. You ask, and as soon as Satan puts a thought in your mind you waver. But if you command something, you expect to get it.

Mark 11:24 is a dominion verse. You desire something with all you heart, and you command it, expecting to receive; “*and you shall have whatsoever you desire*”! You must believe you already have whatsoever you command, before you receive it! Yet, that should not be a problem, for you would not command it if you already had it!

We must be persistent in the things of God. We must continuously speak the Word over every situation in our lives. Those who are not persistent usually never receive according to what

they say. They endure for a while, and when things look bad they waver, and never obtain that which they desire.

Some have been taught by men, not to pray a second time, for if you do you cancel your first prayer. That is ignorance gone to seed. The word pray or prayer is not always asking. Sometimes it means command.

When we take dominion over something, we don't ask for what we have need of; we command it to come. When we command something to come, we expect to get what we say. If we didn't expect to get it we would not have commanded it to come.

Satan is a devil. He is not a gentleman. He has no respect for people. He only wants to control people for his purpose. He is a deceiver, and will deceive anyone he can. He doesn't just get up and leave when you tell him to. You must be persistent and continue to command him to leave until he is gone. He will go if you will be persistent. So, keep on commanding him to leave and he will go.

WALK IN THE LIGHT

In 1 John 1:6, it says, **“If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth.”** What is meant by darkness? Darkness is symbolic of sin. If we walk in sin we are not in fellowship with God. If we are not in fellowship with God, then God cannot pour out His blessings upon us. Our prayers will not be answered. We can pray and pray, and yet our prayers will not be answered. We can pray for others, and God will answer our prayers. But when we pray for ourselves, God will not answer.

In Hosea 4:6 it says, **“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.”** It wasn't because knowledge was not available to them, but it was because they rejected the knowledge that was available to them.

What about Christians today, are they rejecting knowledge? Many Christians say, “I believe God”! “I know I believe God.” “There is no doubt in my mind, I do believe God; yet the manifestations of what I pray for do not come.” Who is telling the truth, the Christian or the Word of God?

We may be believing God in one area of His Word, but what about the other areas? We believed God when He said, **“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.”** Thereby, we asked Jesus to come into our life and be our LORD and Savior, and He did. We became children of God by the new birth.

If you will notice, there is only one promise of God that has “no conditions” other than to receive. There are no conditions attached to being born again. “Whosoever will, let him come!” If we will receive Jesus Christ into our lives as LORD and Savior He will come into us and we will become children of God. John 1:11-13 says.

He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

The new birth is a work of God, and all you have to do is receive Jesus Christ as LORD and Savior. God does all the rest. First, God draws you by His Spirit. Jesus said in John 6:44, **“No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.”** God did it. It was His good pleasure to receive you into His family. All we did was receive Jesus Christ as LORD and Savior. God did not say, we must first clean up our lives and be free of sin before we could become born again of the Word and the Spirit. God helps us to overcome sin after we are born again into His family.

From that point on, in our lives, there are conditions attached to everything we receive from God. If we want to receive the Holy Spirit, we can, but we must use our faith to receive the promise of the Holy Spirit. Jesus was crucified on the Cross so that we could receive the Holy Spirit, which is called the blessing of Abraham. In Galatians 3:13,14 it says,

**Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:
That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**

We must receive the promise of the Holy Spirit “through faith.” If we don’t apply our faith, we will not receive.

If we will receive Him by faith, He will come into us and become the power of God in our lives to overcome the works of the devil. God did not say we must first overcome sin before we could receive the Holy Spirit. He promised the Holy Spirit as our Helper, Guide, Comforter, and Teacher. The Holy Spirit will help us overcome sin in our lives.

Jesus said, **“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”** When we use our faith to receive, we receive the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. By this, we believed and we received. It was simple to become born again, and it was simple to receive the Holy Spirit. Why isn’t it just as simple to believe God and receive many of the other promises of God?

There are also conditions attached to the other promises. Most of those conditions include “faith.” Without faith we will not receive. God did not receive us into His family just to be blessed. God wants to bless us. But there are conditions to receiving the blessings of God.

Faith is necessary for New Covenant people. The Bible says, **“The just shall live by faith.”** That, in itself is a condition that God sets upon all His children. Yet, there are degrees to faith and it seems they very according to God’s ways, not our thinking.

A new born Christian seems to receive from God with very little faith; whereas more mature Christians must increase their faith to receive. Is this unfair of God? No. God is never unfair in anything He does.

What Christians do not understand is that there is a difference between being born again and living as a Christian here on earth. When a Christian is born again, they become children of God. Heaven is their home, earth is their “temporary” dwelling place. They are left here on earth for God’s purpose, not their purpose. God did not leave us here to do our will, He left us here to do His will.

Look what Jesus said in John 17:14, **“I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.”** Jesus made it

very clear, we are not of this world. We are born again into the family of God. Heaven is our home, we are not of this world. When we leave here, we go home, “Home to Heaven!”

What about before we leave and go home to heaven? Jesus prayed to the Father and said in John 17:15, **“I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.”** Jesus prayed that the Father would not take us out of this world. Why not? Why not take us home to heaven?

In John 17:18, Jesus said, **“As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.”** Jesus wants us here to do the works that He did. We are here to do His will and destroy the works of the devil.

There are a number of things to look at where Jesus said, **“As thou hast sent me into the world...”** How did God send Jesus into this world? God sent Jesus into this world “as His Son.” Jesus had “eternal life” when He came into this world. Therefore, Jesus did not send us into this world “without eternal life.”

Eternal life is the very life of God Himself. We were born into this world with human life, that is “soul life.” But, when we were born again of the Word and the Spirit, we received the very life of God within us. We are one with God, He dwells in us and we dwell in Him. In 1 John 4:4, it says, **“...greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”** God, Who created heaven and earth dwells in us, and He is greater than Satan and his demons. Satan can have no power in our lives “if we do not let him.” He can only do what we let him do in our lives.

Eternal life is for our protection, that Satan has no power over us. Colossians 3:3 says, **“For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.”** But, what about the reason Jesus sent us into this world? He sent us to do the works that He did. What kind of works did Jesus do? He destroyed the works of the devil. In 1 John 3:8 it says, **“For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.”**

Jesus wants us to destroy the works of the devil. He wants us to do the works He did and even greater works than He did (John 14:12). How can we do the works Jesus did? Not by our power, not by our ability, but by the power of the Holy Spirit dwelling within us. As Jesus said in Acts 1:8, **“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”**

The interesting thing about the word “power” in Acts 1:8, is that it is “dunamis,” in the Greek; meaning “miraculous power.” That is, “the power to do miracles.” We have the power to do miracles. The power resides “in us,” it is “inherent power.” Like a stick of dynamite, the power is in the dynamite, but it lays dormant until it is ignited by a spark or flame.

We have the power of the Holy Spirit within us at all times. He never leaves us (John 14:16).

But, if we do not do what is necessary to release that power it will never be released. We must release the power of the Holy Spirit for Him to be of value to us.

Jesus knew how to release the power of the Holy Spirit whenever He needed to. Jesus walked on water, healed every sickness and disease, raised the dead, cast out demons, etc. All of this is accomplished by the power of the Holy Spirit that dwelt in Jesus. This same Holy Spirit dwells in every Christian that has been baptized with the Holy Spirit. He is resident within us, and must be released by the one who He dwells in. It's the releasing of the power of God within us that does the miracles.

There is something we must do to release the power of God from within us. In most cases, it takes faith to release the power, and that faith must be in the Word of God. True faith does not work outside of the Word of God. The Holy Spirit only operates according to the Word of God.

HOW TO OVERCOME

Many Christians today are listening to the lies of the devil. Many are sickly among us, and many are living in sin. Why? Because they do not believe the Word of God concerning sickness and disease, sin and iniquity.

All sickness and disease is a work of the devil. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil. Jesus did what He came to do, and on the Cross of Calvary Jesus destroyed sickness and disease, sin and iniquity. There are types and shadows of what Jesus did in the Old Testament.

When Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh of Egypt to tell him to let God's people go; the first thing they did was a type and shadow of how Jesus swallowed up sickness and disease, sin and iniquity in His own body on the Cross of Calvary. In Exodus 7:8-12, it tells us that when Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, it became a serpent. Then the magicians of Egypt, also cast down their rods and they became serpents. **"...but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods"** (Ex. 7:12). When Aaron took up his rod, which had turned into a serpent, it returned to a rod. Yet, all the rods of the magicians were gone, Aaron's rod had swallowed them up.

Just like Jesus did on the Cross of Calvary. When the Roman soldiers laid 39 stripes upon Jesus, He took upon Himself all our sicknesses and diseases. Jesus swallowed up all our sicknesses and diseases in His body before He died on the Cross. When Jesus shed His blood before He died, He swallowed up all our sins and iniquities. They were washed away by the blood of Jesus.

In God's eternal judgement, all our sicknesses and diseases, all our sins and iniquities were laid upon Jesus before He died on Calvary. In 2 Corinthians 5:21, it says, **"For he (God) hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."** It is finished! All our sicknesses and diseases, all our sins and iniquities were swallowed up in victory, when Jesus swallowed them up in His own body "before He died" on Calvary.

Just like the rods of Pharaoh's magicians, they were swallowed up by Aaron's rod; and they did not exist anymore; sicknesses and disease, sins and iniquities were swallowed up by Jesus. In the eyes of God, they do not exist anymore, "unless we permit Satan to lay them upon us."

If we accept what Jesus did for us on Calvary, we can reject all sickness and disease, all sin and iniquity, and they must leave our bodies. We determine if they can exist in our bodies or not. It's up to us, if we will permit Satan to have a place in our lives. If we refuse to give place to the devil; insisting on our inheritance; "which is Jesus' victory over all the works of the devil," they cannot stay in our bodies, or in our lives.

The victory is ours in Christ Jesus. He bore our sins and iniquities, our sicknesses and diseases in His own body before He died on Calvary. Jesus won the victory over the devil on the cross of Calvary. Jesus,

**[Blotted] out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;
And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it (Col. 2:14,15).**

Sickness and disease, sin and death were swallowed up in victory by Jesus, who, defeated the devil on the cross of Calvary for us. Through Jesus' battle with Satan, He won the victory and became the King of kings. Jesus was LORD of Lords from the beginning, and on the Cross He became King of kings (Rev. 17:14, 19:16). When Jesus, being King of kings and LORD of lords died on Calvary, He left an inheritance for us. We are His brothers and sisters in the LORD. We inherited all that Jesus was in possession of when He died on Calvary. We inherited His victory.

Just like in the world system. When a brother dies, his brothers and sisters inherit all his possessions. We, (all who are in Christ), are His brothers and sisters (Heb. 2:11). We inherited His victory over sin and death, over sickness and disease. Yet, unless we claim our inheritance, we will go through life letting Satan put sickness and diseases upon us, bringing sin and death into our lives; all because we did not claim our inheritance.

What Jesus did, He did it for us. He did it for the whole world (1 John 2:2); but He did it especially for those who are in Christ; those who are His brothers and sisters. If we let Satan lay upon us sickness or disease, sin or iniquity, it's because we either don't know our rights as son's and daughter's of God in Christ Jesus; or we are ignorant of our inheritance.

In the world system; if someone comes to steal your inheritance, would you let him have it, or will you fight to get what is rightfully yours? Will you come against the one who has come to steal, kill, and destroy that which is rightfully yours? Will you take the blood of Jesus, and the name of Jesus and command Satan to take back all the sickness and disease, all the sins and iniquities he tried to lay upon you? You must resist the devil if you want him to flee (James 4:7).

Freedom from sickness and disease, sin and iniquity are yours. All you have to do is possess your body and mind; using the Word of God against all the works of the devil.

All a Christian who is sick has to do is "RISE AND BE HEALED"! The only reason they are still sick is because they let the devil lie to them and they don't believe they can "rise and be healed."

Look at the man, "**sick of the palsy, lying on a bed**" in Matthew, Chapter Nine. Four men brought him to Jesus. He was too sick to walk, he could not get out of bed; so they brought him lying on his bed. When they came to the house where Jesus was teaching they could not get in because the house was too crowded. So the four of them opened up the roof and let the man lying on his bed down through the roof. There he was, lying on his bed too sick to get up. As sick as sick could be, too sick to move.

Jesus looked at the four that brought him, seeing their faith (seeing they believed that, if they brought him to Jesus he would be healed). Jesus said to the man, **“Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.”** Some of the Scribes (teachers of the Law), said within themselves *“who ever heard of such a thing, Jesus must be blaspheming, no man can forgive sins but God.”*

These Scribes evidently didn't know the Word of God concerning sin. They did not know that the Lamb was slain from the foundation of the world (Rev. 13:8). They didn't know that Jesus is the one Who paid the price for all the sins of the whole world. In 1 John 2:2, it says, **“And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”** They didn't know that righteousness comes by believing on Jesus Christ, and not by the Law. Romans 8:3 says, **“For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh.”** They didn't know that the prayer of faith could heal the sick, and if they committed any sins it would be forgiven them. James 5:15 tells us, **“the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.”** Jesus had faith. The four that brought the man on his bed had faith.

The Scribes didn't know that all things are possible to those who believe. They didn't know what Jesus said to a man whose son was possessed by a demon in Mark 9. To that man, Jesus said, **“If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.”** It was easy for Jesus to believe; He knew the Word of God. When Jesus saw the faith of the four that brought the man, He could join His faith with their faith and the man would be healed.

But first the sin issue had to be settled. Jesus, knowing that God operates in the NOW, knew that the man's sins were already forgiven. All Jesus needed to do was convince the man that the Word of God was true. God is NOW, and faith works NOW. Once the man knew his sins were forgiven; NOW, faith could make that man whole.

Now, many may believe that it was because that Jesus was the Son of God, He has special powers that no other man has. That's a lie of the devil! The Scribes could have done the same thing Jesus did, if they would believe. You and I can do the same thing Jesus did, if we believe. **“All things are possible to them that believe”** (Mark 9:23). The reason Jesus was able to do what He did is because He knew the Word of God; and He believed the Word of God. Many Christians know the Word of God but don't really believe the Word of God.

These Scribes knew the Law, but they didn't understand the Word of God concerning sin. Therefore they became very religious in their thinking and thought that Jesus blasphemed, because He spoke the truth concerning the Word of God.

God is NOW, and our sins are forgiven NOW, “if we believe the Word of God.” Jesus is the same, Yesterday, Today, and Forever (Heb. 13:8). The Word of God is the same, Yesterday, Today, and Forever! To all who believe that the Word of God works, “it works NOW.” Not in the past, not in the future. It did work in the past, and it will work in the future; but for everyone living NOW, the

Word works in the NOW!

For the man, sick of the palsy, his sins had to be forgiven at that precise moment. Luke 5:20 says, **“he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.”** “Are forgiven” puts everything in the present tense, right NOW! God is NOW, and everything should operate in the NOW, not the past, not in the future; but NOW!

Jesus, knowing the Word of God, after rebuking them for their thoughts, said to the man lying on the bed, who was “too sick to get up,” **“Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.”**

What did the man, sick of the palsy, who was “too sick to get out of bed” do? He was so sick, that four men had to bring him to Jesus on his bed. So sick, that they had to let him down through the roof so that Jesus could see him lying on his bed. He was too sick to get up. But what did that sick man do when Jesus said to him, **“Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.”** Matthew 9:7 says, **“And he arose, and departed to his house.”**

When Jesus said, **“Arise,”** He meant “right NOW”! The man did what Jesus told him to do. Without letting anything stop him. Luke 5:25 says, **“immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.”** Immediately, not taking any time to think otherwise. Not giving any place for the devil. The man operated in the NOW. God is NOW! God’s Word works NOW!

The man didn’t let the devil put thoughts in his mind to stop him! Did he say, I can’t move? Did he say, what do you mean, can’t you see I am sick? No, that man did what Jesus said to do, **“he got up and walked out of the house”!** Mark 2:12 says, **“And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all.”**

Remember, the house was full of people. They couldn’t get in through the door. But when he got up, and took up his bed, they made room for him to carry his bed and walk out the door.

The devil sure didn’t like that, but the devil could not stop the man, he got up and took up his bed and left the house WALKING! Faith is NOW. Faith operates in the present tense. Faith is a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22). The Holy Spirit always operates in the NOW! Jesus, seeing the faith of the four that brought the man, operated in the NOW, saying, **“Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.”**

What would have happened, if the man, sick of the palsy, “too sick to get up,” would not have obeyed the Word of God? Would he still have walked? Most likely not? The Word of God is true, and when we act upon the Word of God the devil has to let us go, and we go away healed, “by the stripes Jesus bore for us on the Cross of Calvary,” **“By His stripes we are healed”**(1 Peter 2:24).

What about the man in the synagogue, in Matthew 12, with the withered hand. There he was, in the synagogue with a hand all withered up. He could not open his hand. Jesus said to him,

“Stretch forth thine hand.” What did the man do? Did he say to Jesus, I can’t? No, he did what Jesus told him to do! Matthew 12:13 says, **“And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other.”** All the man did was what the Word of God says he should do, he obeyed the Words that Jesus spoke and stretched forth his hand. When we do what the Word of God says, sickness and disease will have to go. Sickness and disease cannot stand against the Word of God when we do what the Word says.

What about the man at the pool of Bethesda in John 5? There he was, lying on his bed. He had been sick for thirty-eight years. He couldn’t walk, he just laid there, waiting for someone to help him when the waters were stirred. Jesus said to him, **“Rise, take up thy bed, and walk”** (John 5:8). What did the man do, who was so sick that he could not get out of bed? Did he say to Jesus, I can’t, I’m too sick? No. John 5:9 says, **“immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked.”** Immediately, when the Word of God comes to you to do something, do it IMMEDIATELY, DON’T WAIT for the devil to put thoughts in your mind that you can’t!

Just **“RISE AND BE HEALED IN THE NAME OF JESUS!”** Don’t even let one thought enter your mind that sickness and disease have any power over the Word of God. When you act upon the Word of God it will accomplish whatsoever it says. **“By His stripes we were healed”** If you were healed, “you are healed.” If you are healed, then don’t act like you are still sick. Don’t let any thoughts enter your mind that you can’t just get up and walk, or you can’t shout with a voice of triumph **“I’m healed, by the stripes that Jesus bore for me”!** When you do what the Word of God says, all sickness and disease will leave. The devil won’t stay around when you believe the Word of God and act upon it, immediately!

When you act “immediately” the devil doesn’t have time to stop you! You can run faster than he can walk. The devil walks around, seeking who he can devour (James 5:8). But if you move faster than the devil, he can’t stop you. Do it immediately, when the Word of God comes to you, no matter which way it comes, do it immediately, don’t wait for the devil to talk you out of your blessing. Don’t let the devil keep you from being healed. Act upon the Word of God “immediately.”

What about sin? What can you do about sin? Believe the Word of God, tell the devil to get out of your life, confess your sins and believe the Word of God. Jesus said to the woman who was caught in the act of adultery, **“Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more”** (John 8:11). Jesus is not condemning you for your sins, you condemn yourself by “not repenting, not confessing, and not going and sinning no more.” Confess your sins, repent, and go sin no more. **“Brother and Sister, your sins are forgiven you, go sin no more....”** Don’t let the devil have any place in your life. Jesus already paid the price for your freedom. Jesus said in John 8:36, **“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”** He already did it, he set you free! He went to the cross and bore all your sins and iniquities upon Himself, then He shed His blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and iniquities. God the Father **“made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him”** (2 Cor. 5:21). It’s already done! It was done on the Cross! You can be free of sin and iniquity if you will repent, confess your sins, and believe the Word of God; **“go**

sin no more”!

In 1 John 7-9 it says,

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Don't say you don't have any sin. Just confess your sins, walk in the light of the Word of God, knowing that **“he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”**

The devil is a liar, he was a liar from the beginning. Don't believe the thoughts that come to your mind that do not set you free. **“He who the Son sets free is free indeed.”** You are free of sin, ***if you Repent, Confess your sins, and go sin No More!*** Jesus did it all for you, if you will believe and not doubt. If you let the thoughts in your mind stop you from “immediately acting upon the Word of God,” Satan will rob you of your blessing. Immediately, act upon the Word of God, don't let any thoughts rob you of what Jesus has already done for you!

There are a few songs we should be singing, over and over:

**Rise and be healed,
In the name of Jesus...**

**I've been redeemed,
By the blood of the Lamb...**

When we are born again of the Spirit and the Word, we have eternal life. Eternal life is the very life of God dwelling in us. We are no longer of this earth, we are born again from heaven above. Heaven is our home, earth is only a temporal dwelling place while we are here.

In 1 Timothy 6:12 it says, **“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.”**

The words “lay hold on” is a figure of speech, meaning “get a hold of eternal life and don't let it go.” Once we have eternal life, we must first find out what eternal life is! Then shift over from our old soul life (psuche) to our new eternal life (Zoe) and live by the principals of eternal life.

The principals of eternal life are different than the principals of earthly life (soul life in the flesh). Everything in eternal life comes from God, not from man, not from the world. It comes from the Father, through the Word and manifests in our lives according to “what we believe in our heart and confess with our mouth.”

What we believe in our heart is dependant upon how we renew our minds on the Word of God. Romans 12:2 says, **“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.” Some Christians seem to be renewing their mind on what they hear others teach; by this they are defeated in their lives and don’t know it, or don’t know why things don’t work for them the way they think they should. God didn’t say, renew your minds according to what others teach.

I recall a Word from the LORD years ago, which said, *“Those who have taught what they have heard others teach, and have not received it from My Spirit, if they will repent My grace will cover them.”* We cannot renew our minds on what others teach, we must renew our minds according to what the Holy Spirit teaches.

In 1 John 2:27, it says, **“But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.”** The anointing that abides in you will teach YOU all things according to what the Holy Spirit knows. The Holy Spirit knows what you know and what you do not know. The Holy Spirit is your personal teacher, knowing what the will of the Spirit is as well as knowing everything concerning this complete creation. There is nothing that the Holy Spirit does not know, therefore, with Him, knowing all things, He is YOUR personal teacher.

This does not eliminate the five-fold ministries mentioned in Ephesians 4. They are in the body of Christ for a specific purpose and we must take advantage of them. Especially, when it speaks of “teachers.” Teachers in the body of Christ are to bring forth the Word of God by the anointing of the Holy Spirit, and the Spirit will confirm the Word to you personally wherever it applies to your life. The Holy Spirit is YOUR personal teacher.

Teachers in the body of Christ are people, and sometimes teach from their minds, and not from their spirit. They should be teaching from their spirit and not their mind, but there are many in the body of Christ that have been taught by men and don’t know how to let the Holy Spirit do the teaching through them. The Holy Spirit, “knowing all truth,” can confirm to you that which is of the Spirit and alert you when the teaching you hear is of the flesh. You must decide what you will receive, that which is of the Spirit or that which is of the flesh.

What we believe in our heart will depend upon how well we know how to receive the teaching of the Holy Spirit from within us (1 John 2:27). As we learn the difference between our mind and our spirit, we will then be in a position of renewing our mind to the point where we are transformed into knowing the things of God and discerning the things of this world which are not of God.

When we lay hold on eternal life, the life of God within us will be more important than our lives in this world. We are in the world, but the cares of this world, and other things will not be important. The things of God should be of most important in our lives. Our life is eternal, from everlasting to everlasting. Our time on earth could end anytime. But, our eternal life will continue on forever. Therefore, we should live our lives focused upon what the LORD would have us do

today, forgetting the past and not concerned ourselves about tomorrow.

God is NOW! Eternal life is NOW! Nothing else should be important to us. We live and move in Christ (Acts 17:28). Christ is NOW. Now, we have eternal life! Now, we live forever and ever. We must lay hold of eternal life and live for Christ everyday.

To do this, we must understand how God operates on this earth. God operates by His Spirit, through His Word. Everything God does on this earth is done “through His Word.” Jesus is the Word of God, and therefore, everything is done through Jesus.

While Jesus walked this earth as the Son of Man, He did the will of God the Father, according to the Word of God. He never went outside of the Word of God. He used the Word of God to defeat every enemy that came against Him. He used the Word of God to set people free. He set them free of all sorts of demonic activity, sickness and disease, sin and iniquity, etc. In doing so, the written Word of God became more precise and effective for those who live by the Word of God.

Jesus taught the New Covenant by Word and example. By Word, Jesus made statements such as in Matthew 4:4, saying, **“It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”** Eternal life lives by the Word of God. The Word of God is forever settled in heaven (Psalm 119:89). Everything that has been spoken by God was already settled in heaven before the world ever was. It is considered as already done!

By example, Jesus cast out devils, healed the sick, raised the dead, etc. Using His example, Jesus said, **“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father”** (John 14:12). Did Jesus tell the truth? He had to tell the truth, for He is the Truth (John 14:6).

It all depends upon who we will believe? The devil and the lies of this world, or Jesus, Who is the Truth? Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life! If we will believe Him, we will walk in victory in every area of our lives. We will be free, for Jesus said, **“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed”** (John 8:36). Are you free? If not, you can be free. Believe on the LORD Jesus Christ and you will be free. Believe every Word Jesus spoke and you will be free!

If you have not become born again by making Jesus Christ the LORD of your life you can do so NOW. In John 1:11-12 it says, "**He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:**" Ask Jesus to come into your life and become your LORD!

SAY A PRAYER LIKE THIS, OUT LOUD:

"Lord Jesus, I know that You are the Son of God. I know that You died on the cross for me. I know that God raised You from the dead. Jesus, I ask You to come into my life, live Your life in me. Jesus, let Your will be done in me; let the will of God be done in my life as it was in Your life. I surrender myself to You, Jesus! You lead me by Your Spirit and I follow to the best of my ability. I will live for You all the days of my life, as You lead me by Your Spirit.

Jesus, forgive me of all my sins, wash me clean in Your blood; that I may be the righteousness of God in You. Thank You, Jesus!"

If you have not been baptized with the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues, pray, while believing in your heart on what God has promised you in His Word.

"Jesus, You said in Mark 16:17, that in Your name I can cast out devils.

Satan, in the name of Jesus' I cast you out of my mind. You have no authority over my mind. My mind is clear of all demonic oppression in Jesus' name.

Father, according to Your Word in Luke 11:13, You promised me the Holy Spirit if I ask. Father, I am now asking You to give me the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in Your heavenly language. I receive Him from You now, in Jesus' name."

Continue to pray in your new tongue, praise and worship the Father in His heavenly language.