



Lights and Perfection, Inc.

Go and make disciples!

E-votional 108

Strength

Isaiah 40:30-31 (ESV)

Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

You know strength is something so much more than what we think of it often. Strength is not just the ability to meander through life's difficulties but rather to overcome them. I picture going through some grueling arduous task of heavy physical labor where we in the process of it pray and ask for strength to just get through it. Trust me, I have been there a moment or two and will certainly be there again. But let's flip the script here for the sake of this teaching and focus primarily on the spiritual nature of strength during spiritual struggle.

What I mean is that there is something so much more than needing physical strength. What we need is a supernatural ability from within to be strengthened in the challenges of life. However, I would like to add context that I am in no way making this a teaching directed at those who would want this strength for their own wills and desires but rather for holiness and godliness and accomplishing the desires of the Lord's heart instead. I have to say it like this because if we are truly being honest with ourselves we will understand that there have been numerous times where we just want strength to get through something the way we want to and not necessarily in God's way or timing. In regards to that, we need to be diligent to understand that it is while we wait for the Lord and His timing and way that we receive strength. And this strength is something so much more than just getting us through the struggle or difficulty. Let me be very clear here. God's strength is more than enough to cause us to be more than a conqueror and not just enough to get us through.

That is, when we are in God's will and living for Christlikeness and godliness there is more than enough strength of the supernatural caliber to cause us to flourish in every and all situations. So often we find ourselves crushed

underneath whatever spiritual struggles we may be going through and somehow drift further and further from the truth of God's Word that declared that we can, "*do all things through Christ who strengthens us*" (Philippians 4:13). Instead, we tend to be led into believing that there is no hope and that this struggle will go on from bad to worse. But with that thinking, I ask then, where is your faith?

Our faith should be in the truths of God's Word to be as Paul said in Romans 8:37-39 (ESV),

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Another Scripture that Paul wrote comes to mind in Ephesians 3:16-19 (ESV),

that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Hallelujah Jesus! Paul encourages us in Ephesians here to realize that there is an inner supernatural strength that the believer needs to comprehend the love of God. And earlier in Romans 8, we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us. You see brothers and sisters there is an inner supernatural grace afforded to us that causes us to be able to do all things through and overcome all things through Christ who loved us and gave us His strength. After all, Jesus Himself said, "*be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.*" (John 16:33)

So the moral of the story as it goes is this. As believers, we are simply more than conquerors even if we don't feel like we are. The point and principle behind this is that if we have the mindset that we are overcome, then we are overcome. But if through faith in Christ we believe that we are more than conquerors, then through that faith we are more than conquerors. The question is then, how do you view your situation? Are you overcoming or overwhelmed?

Heavenly Father, nothing is too hard for you. Thank You! We know what Your Word says, but sometimes in our heart of hearts, we drift from these very simple and practical truths. So Lord, lead us back to the place where we have clarity

about our intentions and motivations and have solid trust in You and Your promises. Help us to realize this and experience the more than enough strength You have for us because You are a more than enough kind of God. In Jesus name amen.

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In Christ's Love,
Chris and Jeanne
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