



Lights and Perfection, Inc.

Go and make disciples!

E-votional 61

Psalm 108:12-13 (NLT)

Oh, please help us against our enemies, for all human help is useless. With God's help, we will do mighty things, for he will trample down our foes.

Help and assistance are great when others are motivated to give it, but where do we turn when our skies turn grey and the rain of difficulty beats down on us? I would hope that we turn to and rely upon the Lord alone.

Sometimes as people, when we enter various trials and diverse temptations we have a natural and yet sinful tendency to take matters into our own hands. We do this when we try to find someone else who we think can be influential in our situation or we just try to deal with it in our strength. Either way, it is a vain help. We all must come to that point in our lives when we realize that we are, apart from God the worst possible solution to any situation or circumstance.

There is a unique story found in 2 Chronicles 16 that illustrates this point and also clarifies for us a correct response in the faith. Scripture further teaches that the one who solely relies on human effort and human strength apart from God is foolish (2 Chronicles 16:9).

The Lord rebuked King Asa of Judah at a time when he sought an alliance with the King of Syria. Well, it was a rebuke more so for why he made this alliance. Very simply, Asa was surrounded by his enemies and was afraid, so he sought human help. The reason he sought this alliance is revealed in Scripture in that Baasha King of Israel went up against Asa King of Judah and built Ramah, so Asa gave silver and gold to the King of Syria with the expectation that he would break his covenant with the King of Israel and thus the King of Israel would withdraw from King Asa of Judah (2 Chronicles 16:1-3). Basically, Asa broke faith with the Lord and sought human help instead of help from the Lord. The idea that he broke faith with the Lord in this situation is made clear by the following passage of Scripture.

2 Chronicles 16:7 (ESV),

*At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him,
"Because you relied on the king of Syria, and did not rely on the LORD your God,
the army of the king of Syria has escaped you.*

Very clear and direct is the phrase, "*because you relied on the king of Syria, and did not rely on the LORD your God.*" This is followed by the consequence of failure to adhere to a promise. The promise was that God promised to be Asa's help and instead of turning to Him, Asa had the consequence. However, a better word in this context would be to say that Asa had the fruit of his choices. Look what the Lord says through Hanani a prophet in the next verse.

2 Chronicles 16:9 (ESV)

For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him. You have done foolishly in this, for from now on you will have wars."

In short, the Lord is illustrating to Asa as well as to us that He is more than willing to give support to those whose hearts are blameless towards Him. I know, but who could ever be blameless?

However, many other translations use the phrase fully committed or wholly devoted in place of the word blameless. So, one who is blameless is just simply one who shows by their faith that they rely solely on the Lord and His Word above all else. With that being said, anyone can be blameless in this context. It is a choice that each one has to make. And when such a one chooses to be fully committed to the Lord by seeking Him and trusting Him alone, they will surely have His help and support as well. Praise God!

Jesus Himself further illustrates this point in reference to our eternal salvation in the next passage.

John 6:63 (ESV)

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

Oh, if we would fully grasp this truth and harness its life-giving flow into every aspect of our lives we would truly know the Lord and the help He reserves for those who simply trust in Him with all their hearts. From there we would have a testimony to be told of how the Lord came through for us over and over again. Hallelujah Jesus!

The flesh is no help at all echoes our Lord's voice. When we truly recognize this

and resolve to make the Lord the mountain we run to we will do mighty things.

O Lord, thank You for always being accessible to us. You are never far from us and delight in giving Your people the victory.

It is important to realize that we can do nothing apart from the Lord's help. And also on another note, having the Lord for our help is an awesome thing. With this being said, let us evaluate and ask ourselves, who do I run to in my time of trouble?

In Christ's Love,
Chris and Jeanne
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