

# The God Factor



The  
GOD FACTOR

*It changes  
everything!*

**by Pastor Bruce R. Edwards**

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# The God Factor

*It Changes Everything*

## Introduction

Man's plans often fail, while God's plans always succeed! In this book, we will examine "The God Factor" and explain exactly what the God Factor is – and look at some illustrations of how to apply it to the situations and circumstances we face in life.

We will examine three biblical illustrations that give us examples that needed the God Factor. The God factor changed everything. It is the key that made it possible to overcome what looked like impossible challenges and ultimately gain the victory in each situation. We will be looking at:

- 1 The Israelites facing the wall of Jericho.
2. Joseph facing the pit; and
3. David facing the giant, Goliath.

God will always lead us in triumph in Christ (see 2 Corinthians 2:14). Therefore, as we apply "The God Factor", we can expect to experience success in the situations with which we are confronted.



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# Chapter One

## *Opposition of the Enemy – Walls, Pits, and Giants*



I don't know about you, but throughout my walk with the Lord, there have been times when there have been walls before me that have tried to either stop me or hinder me from fulfilling my purpose and destiny. There are times that the enemy builds walls to try and stop us from possessing the promises and provision that God has for us.

There have been times when I have fallen into the pit and sometimes, I've dug the pit myself. At other times someone has put that pit in my way, and I didn't see it until I was in it. Pits can be a place of discouragement or frustration, and God wants to deliver us out of pits.

Then, there are times when giants come to try and intimidate us or try to destroy our life. The enemy (the devil) goes about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he can devour. Make no mistake about it. The thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy (see John 10:10). Walls, pits, and giants are in the land,



***Make no mistake about it. The thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy.***

and we encounter them on a daily, weekly, and/or monthly basis.

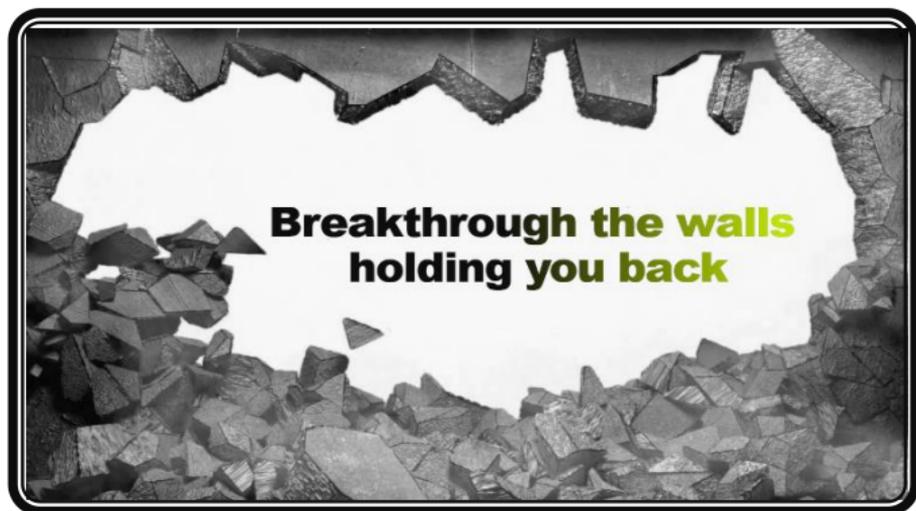
If you are facing a giant, a wall, or a pit right now, I want to give you a word of encouragement and a word of instruction on how to get out of the pit, how to bring the walls down, and how to slay the giants that you encounter.

We are not to be discouraged or frustrated, but we are to press on because God's Word says, **"We are more than conquerors through Him who loved us"** (Romans 8:37). The Word says, **"He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world"** (1 John 4:4). It says, **"If God is for us, who can be against us?"** (Romans 8:31).

Believe me, giants are coming down, walls are coming down, and we are getting out of the pits!

# Chapter Two

## *The Israelites Faced a Wall of Opposition*



In Joshua, chapter 6, Israel had been delivered out of slavery, out of the hands of the Egyptians, and brought out of forty years in the wilderness. God brought them across the Red Sea. He provided manna for them from heaven and brought quail for them. He brought water out of a rock. He brought them through the desert, and now He has brought them across the Jordan. The Israelites experienced miracle after miracle after miracle.

You need to understand that the nation of Israel and the pride of the Israelites are a type and shadow of the Church. The stories in the Old Testament are for instruction and encouragement for us as believers, so we'll not fall into the same traps, dangers, and mishaps that the Israelites fell into.

When they crossed over the Jordan into the promised land, that's a type of crossing over into salvation and into eternal life. When the Israelites crossed over the Jordan River, they stepped into the promised land that God had for them.

When we receive Christ, we confess Him as Lord, and we step across the Jordan into the promised land of eternity with Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord!

If you have declared Jesus as Lord, then you have been brought into the Kingdom of God – the promised land – and it's a land flowing with milk and honey.



***Understand, when you get saved and enter the promised land of God, there are obstacles and things that will try to stop you from receiving the promises that God has for you.***

We need to understand that, even though we've crossed over the Jordan River, and we've come into the promised land in obtaining God's promises, there are obstacles and things that will try to stop us from receiving the promises that God has for us.

It was no different for the Israelites. Once they crossed over the Jordan River into

the promised land, the very first thing they ran into was Jericho with a great wall.

Let's read this account in Joshua, chapter 6, and set the stage for the walls that you may be facing and how those walls can come down:

**“Now Jericho was securely shut up because of the children of Israel. . .”** (v. 1).

Now, I want you to note that the wall of Jericho was shut up **“because of the children of Israel.”** Why would a city that's fortified and armed like Jericho be concerned about a bunch of wandering people who had been in the desert for forty years? Why would they be concerned about a makeshift bunch of people like this? Because they had heard of the God whom they served. They heard of the story of the Red Sea being parted. They heard of the plagues that hit Egypt. They knew of how the Israelites had come across the Jordan River. It was a miracle. They knew of the God whom the Israelites served, so they shut up the wall of Jericho. But God had instructed the Israelites to go in and possess the land.

When we come into the promised land as believers, God is telling us to come in and possess His precious promises, which are ours. Scholars have said there are over 7,000 promises in the Bible for us as believers who make up the Church. But we

***Every promise is there for you, BUT you have to go in and possess them just like the children of Israel had to possess the promised land.***

have to go in and possess those promises. The promises are there for us, but they don't come upon us by osmosis! There is an effort on our part to possess those promises, and this, of course, was true for the Israelites.

They had to go in and possess the promised land.

Remember the spies who went in to spy out the promised land? God had said, "The land is yours." Ten of the twelve spies sent out to check out the land came back with a report that said, "Like God said, it's a land flowing with milk and honey, but there are giants in the land, and we are like grasshoppers in their sight. We can't fight them."

Fear struck those ten spies, and they brought that fear back to the camp of the Israelites.

But Joshua and Caleb, the remaining two of the twelve spies, had a different spirit – a spirit of faith. They said, “We need to go in at once and possess the land.”

The Israelites followed the majority. The majority isn't always right, and consequently, they spent forty years in the desert until they finally crossed over into the promised land. When they got to the promised land, it was exactly like the spies had reported: “It's a land flowing with milk and honey, but it is filled with all kinds of cities with walls and giants.”

The moment the Israelites crossed over the Jordan River; they were confronted with a walled city. The wall around Jericho was huge – big enough to run chariots across the top of it. You couldn't get a battering ram and knock the wall of Jericho down. This was a mammoth wall. There was no way in the natural that anybody could come against this wall.

# **Chapter Three**

*The Supernatural Strategy for  
Bringing Down the Jericho Wall*

The people of Jericho were afraid of the Israelites. They had heard about the God they served and the miracles that had happened so, secured their doors and shut themselves in behind the huge walls that surrounded the city of Jericho. Let's read what happened in Joshua 6:1-6;

**“Now Jericho was securely shut up because of the children of Israel; none went out, and none came in.**

**And the Lord said to Joshua: “See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, and the mighty men of valor.**

**“You shall march around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days.**

**“And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.**

**“It shall come to pass, when they make a long blast with the ram’s horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, that all the people shall shout with a great shout; then the wall of the city will fall down flat. And the people shall go up every man straight before him.”**

**Then Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark of the Lord.”**

**And he said to the people, “Proceed, and march around the city, and let him who is armed advance before the ark of the Lord.”**

**So it was, when Joshua had spoken to the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the Lord advanced and blew the trumpets, and the ark of the covenant of the Lord followed them.**

**The armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard came**

after the ark while the priests continued blowing the trumpets.

Now Joshua had commanded the people, saying, “You shall not shout or make any noise with your voice, nor shall a word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I say to you, ‘Shout!’ Then you shall shout.”

*(Sometimes silence is good.)*

So, he had the ark of the Lord circle the city, going around it once. Then they came into the camp and lodged in the camp.

And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the Lord.



*God told the Israelites to not make a sound the first six times around the wall. He did not want them murmuring, complaining and speaking words of doubt. Sometimes silence is good!*

**Then seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord went on continually and blew with the trumpets. And the armed men went before them. But the rear guard came after the ark of the Lord, while the priests continued blowing the trumpets.**

**And the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp. So, they did six days.**

**But it came to pass on the seventh day that they rose early, about the dawning of the day, and marched around the city seven times in the same manner. On that day only they marched around the city seven times.**

**And the seventh time it happened, when the priests blew the trumpets, that Joshua said to the people: "Shout, for the Lord has given you the city!"**

**"Now the city shall be doomed by the Lord to destruction, it and all who are in it. Only**

**Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all who are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent.**

**“And you, by all means abstain from the accursed things, lest you become accursed when you take of the accursed things, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.**

**“But all the silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, are consecrated to the Lord; they shall come into the treasury of the Lord.”**

**So, the people shouted when the priests blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat. . . . [This was a miracle!]**

### **Joshua 6:1-20**

Archeologists have found the place where the wall of Jericho was. They have discovered that this wall was even bigger than it was thought to be.

The engineering of it was incredible. There was no way in the natural that the wall could come down.

As archeologists studied, they discovered a very strange thing. This wall came straight down as if someone had taken a hand and squashed the wall, pushing it down into the ground.

In the natural, there was no strategy on how to come against the wall that would have worked to bring it down. But even if you could devise a plan,



***Often in the natural there is nothing that can breakthrough the wall you are facing - you need the supernatural help of God - you need the God Factor.***

it would not have been to march around the wall six times, absolutely silent, then on the seventh time, give a shout and the wall come down. That doesn't make any sense in the natural. It was totally impossible for something like this to bring the wall down,

but The God Factor was at work!

# **Chapter Four**

*“The God Factor –  
What is it?”*

There may be walls before you or a mountain that doesn't look like there's any way you can get through it or get around it. It's a mountain that's stopping you or hindering you. There seems to be no way you can make any progress, and you're about to give up on God's dreams and plans for your life. I want you to know that with God all things are possible! How could a wall like the Jericho wall come down? It's The God Factor!

### **What is the God Factor?**

A few years ago, I was sitting in my office, visiting with a ministry leader who was having tremendous impact for the kingdom of God. In the natural, I couldn't figure out how he was doing what he was doing. Financially, I didn't know how he could do what he was doing. What his ministry was doing required incredible resources. There couldn't have been enough support from the church or from a partner base. The impact and the fruit of what he was doing were amazing to me. I'm thinking, *I'm going to find out how his ministry is doing this.*

After some small talk, when I thought the moment was right, I said, "How are you doing

this?” I had a little yellow legal pad, and I was going to write down all of his great ideas. He simply said, “It’s The God Factor.”

Okay, but how do you do this? He said, “It’s The God Factor. God gave us a vision, He told us to do it, and we just released our faith. God supernaturally opened doors of opportunity out of nowhere and made divine connections. It was the favor of God. The God Factor!”



**No matter how impossible your situation looks, if you bring The God Factor into the equation, no matter how big or how impossible the wall you are facing looks, it will come down.**

You may be facing walls right now, or in the days ahead, you may encounter a wall. I want you to know, no matter how impossible your situation looks, if you bring The God Factor into the equation, that wall, no matter how insurmountable or how impossible it looks, can come down.

The Jericho wall didn't come down because they shouted. They needed to shout, but that wall came down because God came into the equation. He reached down from heaven, turned the whole situation around, and the wall of Jericho fell.

The God Factor is the divine favor of God activated in your life and situation. Favor is God's power working in you, through you and for you. Favor is receiving preferential treatment. You have to intentionally put God into the equation. When you do that is when the supernatural power of God is released into your life. God's strategies and intervention into the situation brings the power to overcome.

This means you first must realize your need for God and then allow Him into your situation. He will not force His way in. Second, it is asking Him for help. Seek the wisdom of God. Then, thirdly obey Him, do what He tells you to do.

When The God Factor goes into play in your life, always remember to give God the glory. Zechariah 4:6 says, **“Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,” says the Lord of hosts.**”

When the Israelites defeated the people of Jericho and that wall came crashing down, the Israelites took all of the gold and silver. All of the spoils of war became theirs.

The next city the Israelites invaded was Ai, which was nothing like Jericho. Ai didn't have the walls that Jericho had. I mean, it was a piece of cake compared to Jericho. But when the Israelites went to invade Ai, they got whipped. It was the same Israelites with a whole lot less opposition than Jericho, yet they didn't get the victory. Why were they defeated? Because they didn't bring God into the equation. The God Factor wasn't there.

The God Factor is what will bring the walls down. Don't ever forget that He is the Vine, and we are the branches. Apart from Him we can do nothing (see John 15:1-5).

# **Chapter 5**

*Joseph Experienced the Pit!*

In Genesis, chapters 37-50, we find the story of Joseph with which I am sure you are familiar. As a teenager, God gave Joseph two dreams. Joseph was the youngest of his brothers, and he was his father's favorite, so the brothers despised him. Little Joseph shared his dreams with the brothers and ultimately with his dad. In his dreams, he saw his brothers as well as his father bow down to him and serve him.

Sometimes it's not too smart to share your dreams. You need to be wise with whom you share



***Sometimes it's not wise to share your dreams. You need to be smart about whom you share your dreams.***

your dreams. Joseph's brothers said, "You think we're going to bow down and serve you?" Sometimes big brothers don't think little brothers have the ability to be in such a position.

One day the brothers were out doing their work when their father decided to send Joseph out to take some food to them. As Joseph looked for his brothers,

someone directed him to where they were. The brothers saw him coming from a distance, and they began to plot: “We need to get rid of him. We need to kill him.” When brothers want to kill their younger brother, that’s the devil who comes in to confuse and take you off course.

One of the brothers finally convinced them, “We don’t need to kill him. Let’s just send him away. There’s a pit here in the desert.”

They threw Joseph into the pit, thinking they would leave him there to die. You know the story. God gave Joseph the dreams, the vision, the purpose for his life, and now he ends up in a pit. He is rescued from that pit and sold to the Ishmaelites, later serving in Potiphar’s house.

Potiphar’s wife falsely accuses Joseph of trying to rape her, and as a result, he is thrown in prison. Another pit of sorts!

People forgot about him in prison until finally one day he was brought before Pharaoh to interpret his dream. He was brought out of prison and became the prime minister of the greatest

nation ever because of his ability to interpret Pharaoh's dream.

Finally, his brothers come and bow down and serve him, although initially they did not realize it was Joseph, and he rescues them from famine. The dream that God gave Joseph came to pass.

However, before that dream came to pass, Joseph was in a pit and in prison. He went from the pit and the prison to the palace.

Many times, when God has given, us dreams and promises, there are pits that get in the way that we fall into, and sometimes we dig those pits ourselves. I know I've dug my own share of pits, and there are others who have tried to sabotage the plans and dreams of God. But God has always come and rescued me, just as he rescued Joseph out of the pit.

You may be in a pit – a place where you are discouraged or frustrated. Pits are a place of frustration and discouragement. Oftentimes when we are in that place, we continue to dig ourselves into a deeper pit. We're trying to find our way out,

and we're doing all kinds of different things – many times the wrong things.

If you are in a pit, if you'll bring God into the equation, He can reach down with a lifeline, pick you up out of that miry pit, and bring you back up and put your feet on a firm foundation. Then, you can get to the palace that God has prepared for you.

I'm telling you, God's plan – His destiny for you – is to bring you out of the pit and into the place of His promises, into the fulfillment of the dreams and visions He has given you.



***If you have some dreams and visions that God has placed in your heart that haven't come to pass yet it's time to renew those dreams, get out of the pit, and get on with what God has for you.***

Do you have some dreams and visions that God has placed in your heart that haven't come to pass yet? It's time to renew those dreams, get out of

the pit, and get on with what God has for you. When you put The God Factor into place, He will bring the walls down and lift you up out of the pit.

# Chapter 6

## *David Defeats the Giant*

First Samuel, chapter 17, contains another great story – the story of David challenging Goliath, the giant. Let’s look at this account in verses 17-26:

**Then Jesse said to his son David, “Take now for your brothers an ephah of this dried grain and these ten loaves and run to your brothers at the camp.**

**“And carry these ten cheeses to the captain of their thousand, and see how your brothers fare, and bring back news of them.”**

**Now Saul and they and all the men of Israel were in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.**

**So, David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, and took the things and went as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the camp as the army was going out to the fight and shouting for the battle.**

**For Israel and the Philistines had drawn up in battle array, army against army.**

**And David left his supplies in the hand of the supply keeper, ran to the army, and came and greeted his brothers.**

**Then as he talked with them, there was the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, coming up from the armies of the Philistines; and he spoke according to the same words. So, David heard them.**

**And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were dreadfully afraid.**

**So, the men of Israel said, “Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely, he has come up to defy Israel; and it shall be that the man who kills him the king will enrich with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and give his father’s house exemption from the taxes in Israel.”**

**Then David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, “What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?”**

David was taking care of the sheep at home and his bigger brothers were off to war, fighting the battle against the Philistines. You can just imagine little brother David wishing he could be on the front lines with his big brothers, being a part of this important battle. But he’s too young, too little, and too fragile. His father said to David, “Take some food to your brothers and encourage them. Then, bring me back a report of what’s happening.”

So, David hurried to get up to where the battle was, and when he got there, he heard about this uncircumcised Philistine. Now, an “uncircumcised Philistine” is a person who is not in covenant with God.

Essentially, David was saying, “What’s the deal? Some namby-pamby guy who is not in covenant with God is coming out here to defy the

armies of God?” David looked at his big brothers whom he had looked up to all his lifetime. They could fight off every bear and every lion that ever tried to attack the sheep and helped save David from all the different guys who tried to bully him while growing up. Just like any little brother, David looked up to his big brothers and thought nobody could whip them.

Yet, here are his brothers and the whole army of Israel hiding out because of one uncircumcised Philistine who is flaunting himself before them. David said, “Man, this is incredible. If anyone defeated that giant, they would be awarded the king’s daughter, they would get riches, and they wouldn’t have to pay any taxes for the rest of their life.”

David was on assignment from God, but sometimes it takes a little extra motivation to step out and do what God wants you to do. God knows we need to be motivated, so there was this carrot dangling out there! David is challenged by this, but let’s read on.

**And the people answered him in this manner, saying, “So shall it be done for the man who kills him.”**

**Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab’s anger was aroused against David, and he said, “Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle.”**

**Verses 27-28**

Sometimes people misinterpret confidence in the Lord as arrogance or pride. We need to guard our hearts against pride, because pride comes before a fall. But when you know the God you serve, the God who delivered you, the God who brought the wall of Jericho down, the God who will bring you up out of the pit and deliver you out of the dungeon, the God who will shut the mouth of the lions when you’re thrown into the lions’ den, the God who was with you and helped you slay the bear and the lion, when you know that God, there is a confidence in you – a confidence that knows your

victory will come not by might nor by power, but by the Spirit of God (see Zechariah 4:6).

David had a confidence within him, because he knew the covenant he had with God. He knew the God whom he served. He knew that all things were possible with God. His brothers misinterpreted that as being arrogant and prideful, because all they could see was their little ruddy complexioned brother who took care of a few sheep.

**And David said, “What have I done now? Is there not a cause?”**

**Then he turned from him toward another and said the same thing; and these people answered him as the first ones did.**

**Verses 29-30**

I'm sure you know the rest of the story, so let's get to the punch line. David went to Saul and said, “I'm going to face Goliath.” Saul tried to put his armor on David and give him all the things that he knew would be needed to face a giant like Goliath. David knew that he couldn't use someone

else's armor. It wasn't the way God had delivered him out of situations.

David faced that giant. Goliath yelled out that he was going to feed David to the birds. Goliath looked at David in the natural and said, "This is easy pickins!" The whole army of Israel is hiding from Goliath, and here comes this little scrawny kid! Goliath is licking his chops, declaring, "I'm going to feed you to the birds."

But David stands up and says:

**"I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.**

**"This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel."**

**Verses 45-46**

David took that little slingshot and put one of his five stones in that slingshot. Goliath is laughing. The army of the Philistines is cheering Goliath on. They are confident that David is going to be fed to the birds.

David lets go of the stone in the slingshot. I believe the Holy Spirit came upon that stone and it was like a guided missile. It hit Goliath right in the head and knocked him out. David walked up, picked up the sword of the giant, and with it he cut off the head of the giant.

In the natural, there was no way that David could slay the giant. So, what was the difference? What was it in this particular situation that allowed David to bring the giant down? The name of the Lord, The God Factor! God came into the equation.

## **What Giant Are You Facing?**

You may be facing a giant. It may be a giant of debt; a medical report that says there is no hope; a divorce decree; a legal entanglement. It looks like there is no way out. I'm telling you, as a born-again

believer, you have a covenant with the living God that says all things are possible to you.

Bring The God Factor into the situation and the giants that look like there's no way you can defeat will come down. You can pick up the smooth stone God tells you to pick up, He will put His anointing on it, and He will bring that giant down. There are no walls, no pits, and no giants that God cannot deliver you from when you bring God into the equation.

We've got to put The God Factor into our lives and into what God has called us to do. God is going to help us. The devil cannot stop us if we bring God into the equation.

# **Chapter 7**

## ***Bringing “The God Factor” Into Your Situations***

“The God Factor” is bringing God into the equation of every situation you face.

How do you do that? Number one, you’ve got to get your eyes on the Lord. You see, when we’re in the midst of a battle, when we’re facing a wall like Jericho, when we’re in the pit or when a giant is standing before us, our tendency is to get focused on the wall, on the pit we’re in, or on the giant. We become like the spies who went into the promised land and said, “We can’t beat the giant. We can’t overcome him. We’ve got to cower back.”

We’re like the army of Israel hiding from the giant.

We’ve got to get our eyes on the Lord, because when we put our eyes on God, we begin to see how big God is and how little the problem is compared to God. God is bigger than any report, bigger than any problem, bigger than any situation that you will ever face. We fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and the finisher of our faith.

Secondly, put your trust in the Lord. It’s one thing to look at God, and say, “God is big. He can

do it.” It’s another thing to say, “I’m going to trust in the Lord.”

Proverbs 3:5-6 says, **“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths”** This is one of the difficult things for us to do, because we try to figure everything out.

I’m always trying to figure things out. How is it going to happen? When you try to figure things out, it is always figured out with your own limitations. You are trying to move everything based upon what you know and what you have. There’s no God involvement in that.

When we put our eyes on God and we trust in Him, that’s when we suddenly step out of the boat, and we walk on the water! That’s when we reach down, pick up five smooth stones, and we say, “There’s no way with these stones, but I am coming in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God with whom I am in covenant.”

We keep our eyes on the Lord, we put our trust in Him, and third, we get our orders from Headquarters. What does that mean? The steps of the righteous are ordered of the Lord (see Proverbs 37:23). A man's plans may fail, but God's plans always succeed. We need God's plan.

God's plan to bring the wall of Jericho down was to march around the wall six days without saying a word. Our plan is, "Oh, God, what are we



**A man's plans  
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going to do about these walls? God, can't You see how big these walls are? God, I need help. I'm praying against these walls. These walls have got to go. Walls, be gone." We do everything we can think of in our own mind.

Then we step back and bring God into the equation. "God, what do we do? God, what's Your plan here? What is Your strategy here?"

God is never caught by surprise. He's not sitting up in heaven, saying, "Man, I didn't see that coming." No, God knows the beginning from the

end. He knows every misstep you're going to take. He knows every mistake you're going to make. He knows every wall you're going to face. He knows every pit you're going to fall into, even the ones you dig yourself. He knows every giant that's before you, and He's got a strategy to bring every wall down, to bring you up out of every pit, and to deliver you from every giant. We have to get His plan, bringing The God Factor into the equation.

Jehoshaphat said, "God, we don't know what to do." Faced with three armies coming against them from every direction, armies better trained than the Israeli army. In the natural, there was no hope, and Jehoshaphat said, "We don't know what to do, but our eyes are on You, Lord" (see 2 Chronicles 20:12).

The word of the Lord came, directing Jehoshaphat to send the praisers out ahead of his army. "God, I know You are God, but You don't understand. This isn't a singing competition. This is war." God's response: "I know that, Jehoshaphat. Just send the praisers out."

Can you imagine what the generals were thinking when Jehoshaphat said, “Hey, guys, I got a great idea. I know exactly how we’re going to beat these armies that surround us. It’s incredible! It’s a great idea!”

These generals, well trained in military strategies, heard Jehoshaphat say: “We’re going to send the praisers out.” The generals respond, “This doesn’t make sense.”

Many times, God’s strategies don’t make sense in the natural, but God’s strategies always succeed when we obey Him. His strategies are the ones that we need.



***Many times, God’s strategies don’t make sense in the natural, but God’s strategies always succeed when we obey Him.***

How do you bring The God Factor into your situation? First of all, recognize that He is God and look to Him. Keep your eyes on Him. It keeps your perspective in line. Learn to trust in Him, which is faith. Scripture says, **“The just shall live by faith”**

(see Habakkuk 2:4; Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; and Hebrews 10:38). Acknowledge Him in all of your ways and lean not on your own understanding. Then we inquire of the Lord. “God, what is it we need to do? What is Your strategy?”

Jehoshaphat sent the praisers out. They began to sing, and they broke jars and the enemy armies, when they heard the praisers singing and the jars breaking, thought there was a huge army coming against them, so they ran and scattered. God brought victory to Jehoshaphat because he followed God’s strategy.

God has given us the promised land – a land flowing with milk and honey, a land of promises of healing, provision, peace, joy, wisdom, and abundance. God has given us those promises, but there are giants in the land. We have to go in and possess the land.

The fourth thing of applying The God Factor is we act. Faith requires action. This is the paradox in living by faith, trusting in God, and depending on God. If the battle belongs to the Lord, if it’s The God Factor that makes the difference, if

I'm going to look to God, then why do I have to do anything? It's a team effort. God is looking for us to link up with Him. He's looking for the opportunity to show up on the scene, but He's looking for us to step out of the boat and to send out the praisers.

Jehoshaphat received the word, **“The battle is not yours, but God’s”** (2 Chronicles 20:15). I've read that so many times, because there have been many times in my life and in the life of the church where we have faced a wall. Churches, as well as individuals, face walls and giants.

There are times we get in a pit. Sometimes we've dug the pit ourselves, and at other times, the devil created a pit that we have fallen into. We've got to bring The God Factor into the equation.

There have been times when we as a church were in a situation where we were looking for God's strategy, and Pastor Billy Joe and I linked up in prayer. He would tell me what God was speaking to him. Many times, we would go to the story of Jehoshaphat, and we would stop at the verse which says, **“The battle is not yours, but God’s”** (v. 15).

We would stop and think, *Praise God! God is going to deliver us out of this. The battle is His.*

Then, we'd give a sigh of relief, but we realized we had to do something. We had to put action to our faith, because the very next verse says, **“Tomorrow go down against them [the enemy].”** “Lord, I thought You said, ‘The battle is Yours. What do You mean, we’ve got to go out and face the enemy’?”

Jehoshaphat and his army had to take action and send the praisers out to face the enemy. As they did, God came on the scene, and He created confusion in the camp of the enemy and brought victory to Jehoshaphat and his army.

For us to put The God Factor in place requires us to take a step of faith. God gives us the grace, the power, and the ability. The Spirit of God indwells us. First Corinthians 6:19 says, **“Your**



***If you are going to put The God Factor in place it will require you to take a step of faith.***

**body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you. . .”** God doesn’t leave us by ourselves. His ability is inside of us, but we have to step up to the plate and do what He asks us to do. We are co-laborers with Him.

When you step out and obey what God tells you to do, He’s going to be on the scene and you’re going to see The God Factor come into play to bring you the victory that you need.

God is faithful. If there is a challenge, God is never the problem. God never falls short. He’s never short of money. He’s never short of provision. He’s never short of ideas. He’s just looking for someone who will stand up, look to Him, call upon Him, trust in Him, and walk out His strategy. Then, every wall, every pit, and every giant will come down.

## Personal Prayer of Commitment

Father, I now realize that the first step to allowing The God Factor to function in my life is to believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son and that He was crucified, buried, and resurrected to provide eternal life and all of its benefits for me in this life as well as in the life to come with You in heaven.

I renounce every work of darkness, and I accept You now, Jesus, as my personal Savior and Lord.

Thank You for empowering me with the Holy Spirit. I accept the work of The God Factor in every area of my life – in my family, my job, my business, my school, and in my nation and the nations of the world in Jesus' name.

Thank You, Lord, for giving me Your strategies and Your ability to bring down the walls, the pits, and the giants that show up in my life. I have absolute victory in You, Lord Jesus! Thank You!

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Signature

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Date

# FINAL THOUGHTS

*“With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” – Matthew 19:26 (NKJV)*

**The God Factor is an intervention of the divine.** It is God’s act of reaching into the visible world to carry out His ultimate will. It is God stepping into human affairs to ensure that His ultimate will is being advanced.

It is something that cannot be logically explained, due to its unexpected and incomprehensible nature. As a result, any plan that does not factor into God’s ultimate will is doomed to fail and any plan that does factor into God’s ultimate will is bound to succeed, no matter how impossible the task.

When you face a giant, or a wall, that is trying to stop you from fulfilling God’s will put the God Factor in the equation and watch the power of God help you breakthrough.

If you get thrown in a pit, put the God Factor in the equation and God will deliver you. The God Factor

is for every believer. To activate the God Factor, release your faith. Trust God! Obey what God has told you to do. Take a step of faith and watch God make the impossible possible in your life – it is the **GOD FACTOR!**

# The God Factor

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bruce Edwards is a pastor with over 40 years of leadership experience in business and ministry. He has been married to his wife Trudy for over 45 years. They have two children and 6 grandchildren. He has a master's degree in Business management and degree in pastoral ministry. He served over 28 years at Victory Christian Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma as Senior Associate Pastor.

He works with churches and ministries helping them in various ways to experience "breakthrough" for greater success and impact. As a pastor he has a passion to help people experience the abundant life provided through Jesus and is committed to teach and communicate the principles of God's Word with clarity, simplicity, and boldness.



*What's the missing  
piece in the  
battles of life?*

**The God  
Factor**

***It Changes Everything!***