

Jesse Rich Ministries

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"Reaching the World with the Word of Faith"

Church Talk Vs. Word Talk

Attending to and Doing the Word

James 1:22 says, **But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.**

I don't know if you ever thought about it or not, but doing the Word takes a lot of effort and work on our part, whereas just being religious and going to church doesn't. ***This is the reason many Christians would rather just attend church than attend to the Word.***

But the problem with that is, you'll be out of shape spiritually, which will cause you to be ineffective when dealing with the devil, and can limit your opportunities for being used by God. Being spiritually out of shape will also hinder you from receiving your New Covenant blessings like divine health, prosperity, and protection from God.

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. Proverbs 4:20-22

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. Joshua 1:8

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 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.

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; Eph. 6:10-18

Defeat the Devil With the Word

God wants all of His children to be strong spiritually. The reason we need to be spiritually strong is because we have an enemy, who is Satan, the devil.

The Bible says that the devil goes around as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour: **Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.** 1 Peter 5:8,9

Satan all but completely devoured Job. **So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.** Job 2:7

Thank God Job hung on to God and passed the test and got twice as much as he had before: **And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before. After this lived Job an hundred and forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons' sons, even four generations. So Job died, being old and full of days.** Job 42:10, 16, 17

The most important thing for the world to know is that they need Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. And one of the most important things for a born-again child of God to know is that they have an enemy, who wants to kill and destroy them, and steal everything they've got.

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. John 10:10

And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day? Luke 13:16

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy

Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Acts 10:38

To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. 1 Corinthians 5:5

Attending to the Word Every Day

Most people don't realize the importance of spending time in God's Word every day, listening to faith building messages every day, and attending a church that teaches the Word of faith, and quoting faith scriptures every day, such as: **Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.** 1 Peter 2: 24

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. 1 John 4: 4

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: Galatians 3: 13

You have to fight the good fight of faith on a daily basis. You cannot become passive. Jesus said in Matthew 11:12, **And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.**

Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house. Matthew 12:29

One morning, a young boy I know was reading some confessions of faith from a little mini book like **God's Creative Power Will Work for You**, by Charles Capps. His parents try to make sure he reads his scriptures every day. I could tell by the way the boy was reading them, he really didn't want to. (*In other words, he had a real attitude!*) It was as if he was sitting in the dentist's office waiting for his turn.

I interrupted him and said, "*Do you know why your parents want you to read these? It's because they don't want you sick, and they don't want the devil to do anything to you.*"

And by making these confessions, you'll get stronger spiritually. In the natural, if you're physically strong, and can fight well, you're less apt to have a bully pick on you at school.

Well, in this world we live in, there's a spiritual bully. His name is the devil, and God wants you spiritually strong, so the devil can't pick on you and push your around."

Functioning Like Jesus Did

Satan was unable to push Jesus around. ***Do you know why?*** Because Jesus resisted the devil. The number one way to resist the devil is to speak the written Word in Jesus' Name. For instance, if sickness or pain tries to attach itself to your body, immediately say, "*Satan, I resist you, in Jesus' Name, for it's written in 1 Peter 2:24, **Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.** And Galatians 3:13, 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:**"*

The longer you wait to resist the devil, the more of a stronghold he will get on you. Anything that's not good, healthy, whole, or full of joy and peace, is not from God -- *it's from Satan.* Satan couldn't make Jesus sick, he couldn't take Jesus' life, or make Him poor until the day Jesus laid down His life to take the sins of the world. When the devil came against Jesus, Jesus answered with the written Word, as you read in Matthew 4:1 -11:

Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in *their* hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

The way Jesus lived in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, and the way He conducted Himself, and the way He reacted is the way we, as believers, are to function today.

He was never sick, so we're not to be sick. He wasn't depressed, so we're not to be depressed. He didn't whine or bellyache over God not coming through for Him. He didn't blame God for anything from sickness or disease, to hurricanes or disasters.

He didn't back down from religious people or troublemakers. He stood strong and uncompromisingly rebuking and resisting anything that wasn't of God, from sickness and disease, to people who were demon possessed and/or influenced by the devil. He even stood up to Peter when the devil spoke to him. Every miracle and healing that Jesus did, we're to do today in His Name.

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

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen. Mark 16:15-20

Satan looks for weakness in the believer's life. He looks for a way to get in. God told us not to give any place to the devil. **Neither give place to the devil.** Ephesians 4:27

God warned us that Satan has tactics and devices and that he'll get the upper hand on us if we'll permit him to. **Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.** 2 Corinthians 2:11 KJV

The Amplified says, **To keep Satan from getting the advantage over us; for we are not ignorant of his wiles and intentions.**

The New Living Translation says, **so that Satan will not outsmart us. For we are very familiar with his evil schemes.**

No believer can afford to be ignorant of Satan. Jesus gave us power over Satan. Not only did Jesus defeat the devil, but He gave us power over the devil: **And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.** Matthew 16:18,19 KJV

And I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you lock on earth will be locked in heaven, and whatever you open on earth will be opened in heaven." Matthew 16:19 NLT

Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Matthew 18:18

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. Luke 10:19

Blotting 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. Colossians 2:14, 15

God told us in James 4:7, **Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.** Do you know when you cast down imaginations and refuse to think on things, that's one way to resist the devil? **(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)** Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; 2 Corinthians 10:4, 5

No Fear

But at the same time, if you dwell on fear and worry, you're giving place to the devil. Job found out how the devil got in his life, for he said in Job 3:25, **For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.**

God said in 2 Timothy 1:7, **For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.**

Fear is a tormenting spirit. God gave us the Name of Jesus, which is above every name: Philippians 2: 9-11, **Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

We are to speak the Name of Jesus to worry and fear when it tries to enter into our life. When any thought brings worry, fear, unbelief, or doubt, immediately say out loud: *"I resist you, Satan, in Jesus' Name, for its written:* Then quote a verse of scripture that counters your temptation.

Talk to thoughts. Don't talk *about* them. Talk *to* them. Eliminate all words such as: **fear, worry, pain, sick, lack, need** and **can't** from your vocabulary when dealing with your life and your present circumstances. Don't say, "*I'm dying to go; that just tickled me to death; you scared me to death; it thrilled me to death.*"

Jesus didn't talk this way. Why should you? Learn to connect your tongue to your spirit man. Your body and your life will go the way of your mouth. **A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled. Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof** (Proverbs 18:20,21).

Don't say everything that pops into your head. Think before you speak. Fill your heart with God's Word by speaking the Word. **[Jesus] said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou?** Luke 10:26

These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Acts 17:11

When people try to talk sickness to you, talk the Word to them. If nothing else, they won't talk sickness around you anymore. When people brought stuff up to Jesus, He referred back to the Word.

Coping and not Dealing with Problems

People just think things have to be the way they are, so they cope with their problems. They say things like, "*Well, I've just learned to accept it the way it is. I've just learned to live with it*" (in reference to their sickness or disease). They're coping with the problem instead of dealing with it. They're trying to treat their problem with prayer, instead of dealing with it by applying the Word to their problem.

Prayer is vitally important in facing our problems, because some things take a lot of time in prayer and waiting on God to get direction in your spirit to know what to do. But too many people make the mistake of praying about things that the Word already covers (*like healing and other New Covenant blessings*), or soliciting others to do their praying via prayer requests, instead of themselves putting the time in prayer.

I've often said to people – believers, primarily, who are born again and filled with the Holy Spirit, "*I'll pray with you, I'll pray for you, but I'm not going to pray instead of you.*" I'm talking about the person who wants me to do the praying so they won't have to.

Christians can be some of the laziest people in the world! They don't want to work in the natural, and they definitely don't want to work spiritually. They want to attend a fun church that has a lot of events, a lot of classes and guest speakers, but little time is put in intercessory prayer and teaching the congregation how to apply God's Word to their lives.

We've got to get past this whining and complaining when it seems like the Word is not working, or when it seems like God is not answering our prayers. We should be spiritual soldiers who are strong in intercession, strong in the Word, and effective in battle, so Satan doesn't take any casualties.

Church Talk Vs. Faith Talk

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.** Mark 11:23

The difference between church talk and Word talk is that all some people talk about is their church. They're so blinded that they don't know there's a difference between church talk and Word talk.

'Church people' have a better, closer relationship with their fellow church members than they do with God. This is usually their pastor's fault. When you pastor, you have to feed the sheep on God's Word, and get your people to develop a personal prayer life. You have to strongly urge them to always follow the leading and guidance of the Holy Ghost. You don't want them following you, because all pastors and ministers are human. Therefore, they will foul up and make mistakes.

Sheep need a shepherd, and they need someone to lead them, but that shepherd/pastor has to always instruct his congregation to seek God daily for themselves. A good shepherd will give his life for the sheep. He's not out building his kingdom, or his church, but God's kingdom and God's church.

It is so annoying to talk to someone about the Lord, and all they talk about is their church. I travel to some degree every day, and a lot of my travel is on public transportation. I will be in cabs, buses, trains, planes, or subways, and in almost every situation, when I witness to someone about Jesus, or bring up God, all the person will talk about is their church.

You're there, trying to find some fellowship with believers who will talk the Word, what God is doing, and what God's been dealing with them about doing or not doing, and all they can talk about is what their church is doing and how wonderful the service was! Or, they bring up some off-the-wall prophecy, vision, or dream that someone shared in their church, and they don't want you to judge it. But that prophecy has to be judged in line with the Word of God (1 Corinthians 14).

I don't know about you, but I have met a lot of weird Christians! On one hand, it can be frustrating, but of the other hand, you feel for them, because they're so messed up. This is because they don't have a solid foundation of the Word to build on.

When they share what their church is teaching, or what their church is into, they want you to be just as excited as they are. They want you to blindly swallow it like they did. They definitely don't want you to question or counter it with what the Word says, or cut them off and change the subject.

You can tell what kind of church people go to by the way they talk and by what God does in their life. You can tell if they have any of God's power manifesting in their life or not. They may say they go to a church that preaches the Word, but they don't know how to apply the Word to their lives. So, when the crises, tests and trials of life come, they usually end up succumbing to them, rather than overcoming them. Their physical health deteriorates, their finances worsen, and they live with discouragement. In the back of their minds, they wonder why things didn't go the way they'd hoped they would.

If Satan can rob a person of their joy, he'll rob them of their life, leaving them to spend the rest of their days, just existing from one day to the next. They'll have more bad days than good days. And, if people are not taught the **Word of faith**, they will never become strong spiritually.

When you engage in conversation with people, you can tell if they are being taught the Word of faith or not. Sooner or later, they give themselves away. For example, they may talk about how expensive something is, such as gasoline.

When people make statements like that, it's an indication they still don't believe you have what you say, no matter how long they've heard the Word, or how often they've heard Mark 11:23. They don't believe that the words that come out of their mouth will affect their life, or affect them in believing and receiving from God.

With some people, Mark 11:23 almost falls on deaf ears, they've heard it so many times. Yet, they're not convicted when they talk contrary to God's Word. If you're not convicted about what you say that's contrary to God's Word, you've seared your conscience in that area (1 Timothy 4:2).

Then, people will bring up some physical ailment they have. When you tell them to confess God's Word by saying, *'My God supplies all my need; I live in abundance; by His stripes I'm healed; I can do all things through Christ, I have the mind of Christ'*, they quickly reply, *"Oh, I know that"*.

But they don't have a Word-ruled conversation and have not disciplined themselves to put time in the Word every day. This is usually because their pastor or minister hasn't taught them correctly. And if you bring that up, you'll probably offend them, because they think all the planets revolve around their pastor and their church. It can be a real touchy situation!

The 'Will of God' People

People who accept everything as God's will are not people who resist the devil. The two just don't go together. God said in James 4:7, **Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**

Religion was formed out of *the belief that the bad things that happen to us must be God's will.* Consequently, that's what most Christians believe today. They actually believe that everything that happens to them **is** God's will. That is such a lie! It is religious propaganda.

Just because someone **says** something is the will of God, it *doesn't make it the will of God.* Just because **someone has accepted it**, it *still doesn't make it God's will.* Just because **God permitted** something to happen, it *is no indication that He commissioned it to happen, or caused it to happen.*

The will of God people try to get God to change something, wondering why He hasn't, and at the same time, they stick up for Him and make statements such as, *"Well, the Lord's been good to me. I guess it's just God's will that I be this way"*. They've been brainwashed with religion. They've reverted to the belief that *whatever happens to them must be God's will for their life.* This is because they've listened to so many different kinds of teachings that they get confused, and they don't know what to believe. So, it's just easier for them to blame God, and say it was His will.

They think they're so 'spiritual' that everything that happens in their life is God's Will. When they start this on you, give it back to them. Ask them if they could be wrong. Ask them if everything they say, think, or do is God's will.

From Genesis to Revelation, we have almost countless incidents of things happening to people (*yea, even God's people*) that were not God's will to happen. It wasn't God's will that Adam and Eve died. It wasn't God's will that the Hebrew children died in the wilderness, or for Israel to have a king, or for Ananias and Sapphira to drop dead in church.

You have to judge manifestations in line with God's Word. If people can read, they can see from the 91st Psalm that you're not even supposed to have an accident! It can never be God's will that anybody ever be sick, for Jesus bore our sicknesses.

It's not God's will that any be deaf, dumb, blind, halt, or senile. This is the curse, not the blessing. God gets blamed for this stuff every day. Just because you say it's God's will doesn't make it God's will. *Capisce?*

Satan and his Anti-faith Movement in the Church

God gets blamed for the bad things that happen, while Satan gets a pass, because people would just rather put the blame on God. They believe they're sick and suffering for the glory of God, and as soon as someone else gets critically ill, they think it's just that person's time to go. They're not resisting Satan. They're yielding to him, not even realizing it. You have to keep a strong confession of faith on a daily basis.

You cannot show Satan any weakness. He will always prevail over weak Christians. **Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.** 1 Peter 5:8, 9

Satan will take everything we have if we won't fight, while he persuades us that it was God's will that we lost whatever we lost. He'll take your health, he'll take your strength, he'll take your joy and peace, and he'll take your victory. He will not quit, and he will never be satisfied or content. His whole objective is to eliminate you from the face of the earth.

Satan, our adversary and enemy, is proclaiming this *God's will propaganda* all over the world and has even infiltrated the church with anti-faith teachings. For instance, you can preach from 1 John 4:4, *Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world,* and teach believers that the Spirit of God dwelling in them is greater, and more powerful than anything in this world. Then the people who are anti-faith and anti-victory will try to catch you at your words and say that you're telling people you're God, or take statements that you made out of context.

These kinds of people did the same thing to Jesus when He ministered. They sow discord among the brethren, hinder baby Christians from growing, and they'll spend their whole life being a heretic hunter. Sadly, many dear believers become their prey.

Anything that is not victory is not from God. God's Word doesn't teach us to cope with sickness and disease. We're not to cope with anything that's from Satan! Satan comes against anything that has to do with living a victorious life in Christ Jesus. People buy these lies, because they have the tendency to believe the negative preachers instead of the positive ones. They're just like the children of Israel when they believed 10 spies instead of Joshua and Caleb in Numbers 13 and 14.

People don't want to look bad, so they'd rather blame God for not healing them than seek God and find out why they're not receiving their healing. They'd rather have you believe they're some **special** kind of Christian, suffering some **special** kind of sickness for some **special** kind of reason. **Well, God has specials, that's for sure!**

And His **special** is healing:

And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them (Acts 19:11, 12 20). God wrought **special** healing, so if you want to be special, get healed!! Notice that when the evil spirits left, the sickness left.

If you want sickness and disease to leave, you deal with the devil – strongly. Jesus said in Luke 13:16, **And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?**

Sick people need to know that Jesus is the healer, just like sinners need to know that Jesus is the Savior. It's an abomination against God to think He's the one who afflicts people and makes them sick (Job 37:23). We're under the New Covenant and Jesus bore our chastisement, along with the curse, griefs and sorrows. God doesn't want you grieving over anything. People who do that are in self pity. They're looking for sympathy, not a solution.

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. Isaiah 53:4,5

Darkness and Light

When I was 18 years old, I was lying in a hospital bed, dying of a lung disease. I preferred to have the room dark, like a dungeon, but the doctor who did my lung surgery, Dr. Lawson, came in the room, ranting and raving and yelling and said, *"This boy's dying. I want light in this room!"*

Then, he took the cord on the Venetian blind and pulled so hard that the blinds went all the way to the ceiling, and I thought they were going to fall off. He said, *"I want light in this room and not darkness!"* He knew something about death and depression that too few Christians realize.

You need to get out of the darkness and get into the light – physically and spiritually. There's a direct link between depression, sickness, disease, and darkness and sin. The spirit of death can linger around your home, because you welcomed it and made it comfortable, and all the medication in the world will not run that spirit off.

The entrance of God's Word brings light (Psalm 119:130). There is a law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus, and there's a law of sin and death (Romans 8:2).

You want to operate in the law of life. It starts out with your tongue, having your mouth filled with God's Word, you singing and praising God, having a strong prayer life, and a voice of victory, with you eliminating complaining, whining and griping.

Everybody can lay hands on you and cast this depression out of you, or off of you, and you may get some temporary relief, but if you don't start talking with victory and joy, that spirit of oppression, depression, grief, sorrow, anger, sickness and disease, will overtake you.

You Have to Make the Devil Leave

I had a lady come into my Bible study that was the most depressed person I ever saw outside of an institution. She was using the depression to get attention. One night after the service, I told her that. She said she'd been using the Word and it wasn't working. I said, *"That's a lie, the Word always works. You're ruining your children's lives. What child wants to live around depression?"* I started to give her a list of things to do. I said, *"You're never going to know when I call. When you answer the phone, I want you to say, 'Praise the Lord!' with enthusiasm every time you answer."*

Depression will spread faster than any plague if you don't eliminate it. This woman had taken all kinds of medications and had been to all kinds of doctors, but she'd made up her mind she was going to live with the depression and make everybody else's life miserable.

If you don't deal with people like that, they'll wreck your church! If you just show Satan a little bit of disappointment, he'll accommodate you with a whole lot of it! Well, thank God, she started praising the Lord, and she started gaining victory and joy. It seemed as though she became a new lady. I often thought her husband was happy I dealt with the issue. He seemed never to have the nerve to deal with it.

The only power Satan has is deception. He cannot do anything to anyone unless they permit him to. Normally, most people do not purposely or intentionally yield to the devil. But they do so ignorantly. Ask your Christian friends some time to tell you what they know about the devil. Ask them what he can and cannot do, and then ask them if they ever talk to the devil. Most of your friends are clueless about Satan's devices while he's doing everything he can to destroy their lives.

Don't be Like Weak Christians

Weak Christians are very dangerous to be around, because if you don't keep yourself built up spiritually in God's Word, you'll end up thinking the way they think, acting the way they act and talking the way they talk. Weak Christians go around, telling others that they believe the sickness they have is God's will, or that God took their loved one who died with cancer.

For the rest of us to counter one of those statements with God's Word would almost be sacrilegious to them. If we counter any of those statements, and let them know it was Satan that did it, they get angry and upset and act like a spoiled child that always got its way. They will guilt-trip you by accusing you of not walking in love and not caring.

But you've got to tell people the truth. You can't pussyfoot around about this. Sometimes you have just got to sit them down and show them what the Word says about these things.

If you don't tell people what the Word says, you're telling them what they want to hear. And, if you tell them what they want to hear, you're lying to them.

My mother would always warn me as a child not to say certain things to people for fear of hurting their feelings. Unfortunately, many of our ministers do the same thing.

Because of a fear of what people might think, say or do, many Christians today are suffering with the curse of sickness, disease, mental anxiety and depression, all because they're hearing a compromised message.

Stand up for God and His Word - Tell the Truth

If you don't tell your suffering friends and relatives that Satan is the one doing this to them, and give them chapter and verse, then they're going to continually blame God and stay blinded to the truth. If you don't tell people the truth, they're not going to find out, and you're going to be held responsible by God. We're carriers of the light, and we rescue people out of darkness.

¹Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; ²But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

³But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: ⁴In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

⁵For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. ⁷But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. 2 Corinthians 4:1-7

Pride and Fear

You may not want to tell people what the truth is from God's Word, but by yielding to that pressure, you're yielding to Satan. It is Satan who influences you not to say anything, not God! The reason that you don't tell them is usually from a spirit of fear – fear of what they may say and how they may react. And couple that with pride and what they may think of **you**.

Usually, the main reason that a person tells somebody what they want to hear is because of fear, and because of pride. Your whole life can be controlled by pride. You think you're walking in love because you stay agreeable and because you don't rock the boat. But the truth about the matter is you want people to think well of you and talk well of you. And, you're afraid of confrontation. Get off your throne of pride, and start making a stand for God!

All Liars go to Hell

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, **and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone...** Revelation 21:8

Don't lie when a person asks you a question – (*Do you think I'm too fat, How do you think this looks on me*), tell them the truth!! It's not ok to lie to appease people so you won't hurt their feelings. God doesn't give you a pass. Lying is lying! We've all done it, and you need to recognize when you do it. You can be so governed by the fear of offending someone and hurting their feelings, that you become a liar. No one has any respect for someone who lies.

I know a minister I got to be around for a while, who was never sick. One thing about him was, if you asked him a question, no matter who you were, if he answered the question, he told you the truth. So, before you asked him what he thought of your church, or the song you just sang, or anything else, even personal things – you knew you were going to get the truth from him.

We live in a touchy-feely world today, to the point of people being lied to so much that their emotions cannot handle the truth without them crying and getting upset. They react by ignoring you and staying away from you. They tell everybody what you said and what you did. They want to be humored and coddled. When you do that, you damage them. It's no wonder that most Christians are emotional wrecks. They cry over the least little thing. The reason this is going on is because someone is feeding this spirit. They don't like anything that's hard. Walking in love never lies. You go to hell for lying, just like you'd go to hell for any other sin. Satan doesn't want the church strong.

Put Your Flesh Under

While we're going down this path, we might as well address the over eating issue: Proverbs 23:2 says, **And put a knife to thy throat, if thou be a man given to appetite.** Have you ever

noticed how happy your flesh gets when it gets to eat? Some people become intoxicated over food. They're a slave to their food addiction to the point they can hardly even leave their house without feeling uncomfortable. If this is you, start taking Colossians 1:13 and start claiming you're delivered: **Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:** Start saying, in Jesus' Name, I keep under my flesh. Get the Charles Capps book called, **God's Creative Power will Work for You.** You will find a good confession over your flesh in that book.

It is important that you deal with this, because your flesh can get so fat that it will affect you spiritually. The point is you can't even get on your knees and pray. Satan will cause you to become immobile. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 9:27, **But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.**

If you eat too much, you're not keeping the flesh under. You've picked up a spirit of gluttony. It's going to affect your health and you'll get so you can't even go to meetings, because your body can't sit for too long. Your whole life will be governed by what you're going to eat today.

Christians are so fat and uncomfortable today, that they're not really interested in doing anything beyond watching television and eating. If you're in this situation, you go to God and His Word about it. If you don't deal with it, you're going to reap what you sow. If you sow of the flesh, of the flesh you'll reap corruption: **For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.** Galatians 6:8

Quit ignoring the problem and lose the weight. Give your flesh the test. Tell your flesh it's not going to eat what it wants to eat. People can get so heavy, they can't even stand and worship God in church services. But thank God, we've got the Name of Jesus and victory over the flesh. Our bodies hate to be told no. But any flesh out of control is headed for destruction.

Don't Listen to the Wrong Voice!

The reason some believers are in the mess that they're in is because they're experiencing a Jonah dilemma. They're not going to get out of their mess until they speak up for God and say what He wants them to say. When you don't tell people the truth of what the Word says, Satan will tell you that was real good of you – at least you didn't offend them or hurt their feelings – or whatever lie he can get you to believe. But if you want God's anointing, you'd better speak up!

Many ministers have lost their anointing because they began to compromise the message for fear of repercussions. Some have even lost their very lives -they died prematurely without finishing their course. Why do you think the early church and Paul prayed for boldness all the time? Boldness brings on God's power. – *But it also attracts the attention of the devil to bring on persecution.*

Disobedience quenches the Spirit. ***And, not sharing God's Word isn't something that Jesus would ever do!*** If you love people, give them the Word. They may get offended, they may not. But don't back down! Satan is always, all your life, going to do everything he can to keep you from sharing the Word.

The same voice that said you don't need to be saved and that going to church was enough when you had people witnessing to you that you need to be born again, is the same voice that tries to persuade you that you don't need to pray every day, and that you don't need to tithe. It is the same voice that's always going to try to persuade you not to do what God tells you to do.

Satan brings temptations. He makes things appear to look good. This is where people get deceived. You're always going to be tempted by Satan. But we have to resist the temptation, no matter how strong it is. If you're married, he will tempt you with somebody else. If you've been delivered from anything, such as alcohol, lust, pornography, or any kind of addiction, he'll always try to put it back on you.

Resisting Satan's temptations is one of your primary responsibilities, as a believer. This is why some people never leave their church, or denomination. Satan will tell you not to leave your denomination, not to leave that cold, dead, doubting, unbelieving church, and when you plan on going somewhere to go and hear the Word, he'll work on you all day long not to go. Don't go to a church that makes statements such as: *"God doesn't always heal, God's going to heal you someday."*

If there's not a church in your area that teaches a bold message based on God's Word, start praying one in. Do not tolerate a little bit of doubt and unbelief, because that little bit of leaven will affect you (***A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump Galatians 5:9.***) Guard your spirit man...protect your heart. from any evil influences, doubt and unbelief, as well as compromised messages. If your pastor is a people-pleaser, he'll never tell you the real truth.

You have to learn that Satan is after you every moment of the day. It is your responsibility, just like it's my responsibility, and every born again child of God's responsibility to resist the devil, and not give the devil any place. Satan will work on your emotions and your feelings, and if he has his way, you'll never completely do what God wants you to do. This is where people lose the protection of God and the curse overtakes them.

Just read Deuteronomy 28 the next time you're tempted to not do what God wants you to do. When you're tempted to sin and disobey the leading and guidance of the Holy Ghost, or not do the Word, ask yourself the question, *Do I want to take the chance of having these curses overtake me?* God has purchased the blessings for us in Deuteronomy 28:1-14, but He emphatically warned us that if we do not obey Him, the curse will overtake us (Deuteronomy 28:15 - 68).

When Satan entices you to go your own way, do your own thing, or act your own way, he is never going to inform you that by disobeying God, he has legal access to attack you like he did Adam and Eve. He killed them. Disobedience to God is usually the number one or two reason why a person ends up suffering sickness and disease, has an accident, or doesn't get their prayers answered.

Obedience to God and His Word & His Will

There should be nothing more important to you than obeying God. There should be nothing more serious to you than earnestly seeking God daily for guidance in His Word and by the Holy Spirit. And if you've got issues in your life, whether they're of the flesh, carnal nature, pride, stubbornness, jealousy, rage, or anger, begin to acknowledge your problem and ask God to forgive you. Cry out to God for help, and stop yielding to that temptation.

The stronger the temptation is, the stronger you've got to resist it. Whether it's drugs, or an eating disorder, or whatever it may be, know that Satan is behind the cause or root of it. Break that power over you with the Name of Jesus. Make yourself do what you know you've got to do, and stay away from those people and things that entice you to sin with your flesh, or your heart, because you don't want the curse overtaking you.

God will help us if we will go to Him sincerely, in Jesus' Name. When you go to God with your problem, remind Him of what His Word says about it. Get on your knees and lift your hands to God and begin to worship Him. The more you reverence God, and the more godly you talk, the more victory you'll have. Do not think for one moment that the curse won't come on you if you disobey God. The Bible is full of stories of people who disobeyed God and suffered the consequences. ***Sadly, many of those people are in hell today!*** We don't want the curse overtaking us, and we definitely don't want to go to hell.

By not obeying God's voice, not keeping the commandment of walking in love, not keeping your flesh under, and not obeying God's Word, you'll expose yourself to Satan, who is behind all of the evil that is in this world.

Every bad day you ever had came from Satan. Every weak day, every sick day, every defeated day, every depressed day – those things aren't from God. So therefore, they can only be from Satan. God said, let the weak say they are strong (Joel 3:10). So, you've got to talk to weakness, depression, sickness and fear, and boldly speak God's Word to every ill feeling that comes your way.

Your Stand for God

If you take the stand that you're not going to compromise the Word, you're going to be severely persecuted. Persecution attacks you first of all, emotionally. Eventually, if it has its way, it'll control you and affect you spiritually.

If you tell people that sickness is from Satan, just like sin and poverty are, you're going to get people upset and offended at you, and you'll lose friends. If you're in the ministry, they'll leave you, leave your church and stop supporting you financially. **But don't quit, don't give in, don't compromise and don't take it personally!** Just know these are Satan's ploys to intimidate you. Don't compromise your stand on God's Word. If no one got healed, **you** still believe in healing.

Don't waste your time crying and fretting over persecution. Don't let the devil see you get worked up over it. Just get up the next day, quote your healing scriptures and act like nothing happened. Remember: your goal is to serve and please God because you're in God's elite.

- You're hanging with faith's *Hall of Famers*.
- You're numbered with Caleb, Joshua, Abraham, Paul and Peter.
- You're not with the losers. You're with the winners.
- You're with Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and Daniel, **and most of all, you're with Jesus!**
- You're an overcomer and you're a believe.
- You live in victory because you walk in victory.
- You walk in the spirit because you're led by the Spirit.
- You walk in the God-kind of love, which has nothing to do with emotional or worldly love.
- You're not halted between two opinions, because you've made a quality decision to go the Word way.
- You don't quit when it gets hard.
- You don't succumb to religious guilt, you're not moved by sympathy; you refuse to allow people's opinions to control you.
- You're out to please God and obey Him.
- You're honored to do what He tells you to do, live by faith and serve Him.
- *You're not with the 10 spies, the Pharisees, or the Sadducees.*
- You're with the wet water walkers!

God told us in Joshua 1: 9, **Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.**

You just stand in there, because someday, you're going to hear, "*Well done*", while everybody else that compromised will wish they heard it. You'll be strong in God, you'll please God and you'll never be Satan's road kill or one of his casualties.

An Urgent Matter

Right now, Satan is doing everything he can to destroy this world, our nation, our economy, and our very existence. If we born-again Christians don't start taking authority over the devil, he'll take our nation. He'll cripple us financially. If the church doesn't use her authority, there's little God can do to intervene. If you love our nation and enjoy our freedom and prosperity, intercede every day on behalf of our nation and our leaders. Speak the Word, use the Name of Jesus, and make sure you do everything you can spiritually to prevent Satan from having his will and his way.

It is urgent that we do not procrastinate. We must be in one accord & all speak the same thing. I remember clearly when the Lord told me to move to New York City early in 2001.

Every day, I had an urgency in my spirit to keep speaking the Word to New York City. I walked up and down the streets, telling Satan he can't have New York City and quoted scriptures in Jesus' Name.

We can't neglect the responsibility God gave us to intercede and pray for our nation, Israel and the world. Everything that's going on won't stop until we make it stop. We're no longer going to get by simply going to church. We have to become spiritual warriors who plead our case and stand against the powers of darkness, exalt the Word and lift up the Name of Jesus, pray in the spirit, pray the Word, pray in our known language and obey the witness of Holy Spirit.

Ministry Update

I want to let you know, as my friend and partner, that I've been invited to go to Kenya to do a minister's conference and open air crusades.

Over the last few years, I've gotten several invitations to go and minister overseas, & other places, but I didn't accept any because of what the Lord already had me doing, such as ministering in New York City, doing our Bible school in Jacksonville, FL, and establishing our Word of faith churches.

If you've followed my itinerary, you know we've been very active. I thank God for all the invitations I've received to go minister -- it's an honor just to be invited. While I didn't have the leading to accept the previous offers, I sense in my heart to accept this one. Anyway, I'm asking you to pray about supporting this upcoming trip to Kenya. It's going to cost at least \$25,000. In the meetings, not only will we reach many pastors, but multitudes of people as well! We'll be teaching the pastors the Word of faith, preaching the gospel to the lost, and ministering healing to the sick.

We'll probably have to provide some transportation, sleeping accommodations, and food for many of the native pastors. We'll feed the poor, the hungry and the children, like we did on my India crusades. Plus, we also have our India mission with Pastor Philip, who needs me to come as soon as I can. Whatever you give will be greatly appreciated! Just mark

your offering toward missions, and I'll keep you updated. -
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