

Truths of Assurance and Freedom

Lesson # 9 -- The Meaning and Availability of Divine Enablement

Introduction

- A. All believers, in order to make progress, must come to the realization that they cannot live the true Christian life in their own strength and wisdom.
- B. The Lord Jesus said, "Without Me ye can do nothing." John 15:5
- C. This does not mean we become passive (that's how some interpret surrender), but it means we put our life into His hands and then aggressively do what He leads us to do -- through His Word -- and we do it by faith -- for His glory.

I. The Provision of Divine Enablement.

- A. Our enablement for life is a Person -- Jesus Christ.

But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. I Cor 1:24

Comment: It is overwhelming but true -- God has given Himself to us as our divine enablement. This was true for Moses (Ex 3:11-14) and for all saints. No matter who we are (Jew or Gentile) the provision is the same. This is one of the most misunderstood truths of the Bible!

- B. Our enablement begins within -- our deepest spiritual needs.

For we have not an high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are -- yet was without sin. Heb 4:15

For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted (tested). Heb 2:17,18

Comment: Have you ever thought "No one understand how I feel on the inside?" These verses tell us the Lord Jesus lived our life, felt our shame and pain, and makes Himself available to help and heal us. Only God can work with our spirit -- only He can heal.

- C. Our enablement covers all of life.

God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work. II Cor 9:8

Comment: This verse is such a wonderful blank check. We have been promised "grace" which stands for all the provision of God. The message of this text simply says, "Whatever you need to do My will -- I will provide it." We cannot ask for more -- it is just God -- in action.

II. The Assurance of Divine Enablement

A. The Christian has the enablement to comprehend the love of God.

That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints, what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge Eph. 3:17-19

Comment: The kind of "comprehension" Paul means is ("to lay hold of so as to possess as one's own" W.E.Vine) something inward, a very personal spirit awareness of love. Without this love is only an idea and not a personal relationship. Many believers live without this benefit.

B. The Christian has the enablement to withstand temptation.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. I Cor. 10:13

Comment: This promise touches some of the deepest recesses of our heart and life. All of us know how sinful, weak, self-centered, and deceptive we are. We also know we cannot cope with ourselves. In this verse God is saying, "I know all about you and will support you if you let Me." We must be honest about this and obey Him.

C. The Christian has the enablement to comfort/help those in trouble.

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. II Cor 1:3,4

Comment: Every sensitive and compassionate Christian needs to be reminded of this promise each day. All too often we feel helpless and confused as we witness our loved ones and friends in "trouble." We have the right and ability to bring "comfort" (same Greek word for the person and ministry of the Holy Spirit - "one called alongside") to them. This is the assurance that God can and will use us to minister to others.

D. The Christian has the enablement to resist Satan and Wicked Spirits.

Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Eph 6:11

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. Eph 6:16

Comment: All believers share in the victory gained by the Lord Jesus over the kingdom of darkness. We have been given protection in the armor, powerful weapons in the Word of God and prayer, and as we fight (as we must) we will be victorious.

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