

The Christian – And His Ability

Introduction

- A. The Christian and the Christian life is described in the Bible as related to power and ability.

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

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Eph. 6:10

- B. It is important for the Christian to realize that he has certain unusual abilities due to the grace of God. These abilities present the Christian with a great opportunity as well as a great responsibility.

I. The Basis of the Christian's Ability.

- A. He has been adopted as God's child.

But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name. John 1:12

And 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

- B. He has been called to represent God.

Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. II Cor. 5:20

For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance. Romans 11:29

- C. He has been anointed by the Holy Spirit.

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8

II. The Explanation of the Christian's Ability.

- A. He has the ability to admonish other Christians, Romans 15:14.

And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

- B. He has the ability to withstand temptation, I Cor. 10:13.

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.

- C. He has the ability to comfort those in trouble, II Cor. 1:3,4.

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 be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

- D. He has the ability to use the Bible to bring life to people, II Cor. 3:6.

Who also hath made us able ministers of the New Testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit, for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

E. He has the ability to comprehend God's love, Ephesians 3:17,18,19.

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

F. He has the ability to resist the Devil, Eph. 6:11.

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the Devil.

G. He has the ability to avoid and put out all the attack of the Devil, Eph. 6:16.

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

Conclusion

A. Question: If all Christians have this ability -- why are not these more manifested in our daily lives?

B. Answer: There are three conditions the Christian must meet.

1. He must sincerely desire to glorify God with his life.
2. He must learn about his abilities and how to practice them.
3. He must practice his abilities by faith and consistently obey God.

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