

Walking In Faith & Victory

The Communication of Our Faith

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I. Introductory Remarks.

***Psalms 89:15-16** Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! They walk, O LORD, in the light of Your countenance. In Your name they rejoice all day long, And in Your righteousness they are exalted.*

This is God's desire towards us as Christians. He wants us to be free from all worldly concerns and things that weigh us down. When we are lifted above the circumstances of life and can rejoice all day long, no matter how difficult things may be, we become valuable tools and weapons in the hand of God. We become effective warriors, who are able to take the kingdom by force.

On the other hand we have an enemy who wants to keep us in check. Every time we start to rejoice and walk in the light of God's countenance, He will try to keep us in a state of misery, discouragement, hopelessness, depression and whatever else he throws at us to keep us as ineffective warriors for the cause of Christ. Satan is the accuser of the brethren and will throw everything at us he can get away with. He does not want you to know the joyful sound and walk in the light of God's countenance.

In this message I want to talk about a very important element that will give you victory over all of Satan's lying accusations. It's found in the Book of Philemon.

***Philemon 1:6** ...that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.*

What Paul is saying here is that our faith becomes effective against the wiles of the enemy when we learn to communicate or share who we are in Christ and what He has done for us. This is the joyful sound that God wants us to hear--that will release us from the grips of the enemy's devices. We must learn to acknowledge every good thing that is in us in Christ Jesus.

II. We Must Acknowledge Who We Are In Christ.

1. We Are Sons & Daughters of God.

John 1:12 *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name...*

Romans 8:15-16 *For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,*

Imagine what it would be like to be a member of one of the most wealthy and prestigious families in the earth. You would be treated like royalty no matter where you went. Well, we have something greater! We are a part of the Heavenly Father's family, who reigns over the heavens and the earth. This gives us great privileges and honor in everything that pertains unto life and godliness. Through salvation we have been adopted into this great family.

2. We Are Spiritual Heirs.

Galatians 3:29 *And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

Galatians 4:6-7 *And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.*

3. We Are A New Creation.

2 Corinthians 5:17 *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

When we have a good understanding that we are a new creation in Christ, Satan is not able to throw our past at us and cause us to be ashamed and feel condemned. There is nothing in our past for Satan to accuse us of, because it has all been forgiven and forgotten by God. He no longer remembers our sins.

4. We Are Mighty Conquerors in Christ.

Romans 8:37 *Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*

Because of our position in Christ and who we are we have been given authority to trample over all the forces of the enemy. He cannot hurt us.

Luke 10:19 *"Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.*

2 Corinthians 2:14 *Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.*

It doesn't matter what situations or hardships you may be experiencing, God has already given you the victory and the means to overcome. He leads you through these things.

III. We Must Acknowledge What We Have In Christ.

The Bible tells us we are to continually bring to mind all of the wonderful benefits we have in Christ.

Psalms 103:1-5 *Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

There are so many benefits that we have received through the blood of Christ that it is hard to mention them all without overlooking some.

Psalms 40:5 *Many, O LORD my God, are Your wonderful works Which You have done; And Your thoughts which are toward us Cannot be recounted to You in order; If I would declare and speak of them, They are more than can be numbered.*

Here is a sampling beginning with Psalm 103.

- Forgiveness for all iniquities
- Healing for all diseases
- Preservation from destructive influences.
- Crowned with lovingkindness & tenderness
- Satisfied with good things.
- Spiritual renewal.
- Love, Joy, Peace & Righteousness.
- Spiritual quickening or power over sin.
- Spiritual freedom from guilt.
- Spiritual understanding & Enlightenment.
- Spiritual authority.

- Spiritual discernment.
- Gifts of the Spirit.
- Divine abilities.
- Hope.
- Spiritual riches in this life and the one to come.
- Eternal life with a dwelling place designed according to our desires

Ephesians 3:17-20 ...that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height; to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us...

Now, with all of this in mind let's go back to Philemon and take another look at the Scripture. It should have a greater impact upon us.

Philemon 1:6 ...that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

IV. What's The Problem.

With all of this, "Why is it that so many Christians walk around in a state of defeat?"

Is it because they have taken what they have in Christ for granted and focused on their failures and what they don't have, rather than on the victory and what they have in Christ?

Do you spend more time thinking about your failures and sins than who you are in Christ and what He has given to you?

Proverbs 23:7 for as he thinks in his heart, so is he. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, but his heart is not with you.

V. Practical Steps For Communicating Your Faith.

1. Meditate Each Day On Who You Are In Christ & What He Has Done For You.

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy; meditate on these things.

- What is God working in your life that is of good report? Think about it and meditate on it until it sinks deep in your heart.
- Meditate on who you are in Christ and what He has done for you.
- Meditate on His power and unlimited ability towards you.
- Bring your thoughts into agreement with God's word.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 *For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,*

Cast down every thought that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, eg. I'm a loser, I can't do anything, guilt, etc.

Psalms 1:1-3 *Blessed is the man... whose delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.*

2. Keep A Journal Of Your Spiritual Progress.

- What areas have you gained the victory in?
- When did you experience answers to prayer?
- What are your goals in Christ?
- What has Christ accomplished in your life?
- What fruits of the Spirit are evident in your life?
- Write down who you are in Christ.
- Acknowledge every good thing that is in you in Christ - This is a point of reference.

When Satan comes, show him. It is written here. The enemy wants you to forget what Christ has accomplished in your life, but God wants you to be continually reminded of what He has done. Forget not His benefits.

3. Make Faith Declarations During Personal Worship.

2 Corinthians 4:13 *But since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak,*

Declare in faith who you are in Christ, what He has done for you and what you

want Him to do. David practiced this continually.

Psalms 107:21-22 *Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men! Let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, And declare His works with rejoicing.*

Psalms 118:16-17 *The right hand of the LORD is exalted; The right hand of the LORD does valiantly. I shall not die, but live, And declare the works of the LORD.*

Read several portions from this passage.

We are simply bring our confession into agreement with God's word.

4. Testify To One Another What Christ Is Doing In Your Lives & Who You Are In Him.

Malachi 3:16 *Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, and the LORD listened and heard them; so a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the LORD and who meditate on His name.*

Psalms 66:16 *Come and hear, all you who fear God, And I will declare what He has done for my soul.*