

May 2002

Spiritual Coffee

In past messages I have shared that you have a free will and can choose whichever road you wish to go down. The Bible clearly states that ahead of our path is blessing and cursing. You can't rely on God to give you the grace not to have any consequences when you go down the path of cursing. The good news is that Jesus has sent the Holy Spirit to help us along the path of life.

Mark 1:7-8 Amplified Bible (AMP): And preaching, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. I indeed have baptized you in water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

John 14:16-18 : Amplified Bible (AMP) And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever—The Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him. But you know and recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans [comfortless, desolate, bereaved, forlorn, helpless]; I will come [back] to you

In the Gospel of Mark it tells of a greater baptism than of water, the baptism of the Holy Ghost. And in John it explains further what that baptism entails. I like the way it is explained here in the Amplified version. It goes into detail of all the attributes that the Holy Ghost is and can do to help us make the right choices through life.

God has a plan for your life, better than you could ever come up with in your own mind. The Bible states that Gods ways are higher than our ways, God has a plan, a way higher than you could ever imagine for yourself. A scripture describing God's plan for your life is one that I have shared before in Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 29:11 Amplified Bible (AMP): For I know the thoughts and plans that I have for you, says the Lord, thoughts and plans for welfare and peace and not for evil, to give you hope in your final outcome.

So not only has God got plan for your life, but he gives you the Holy Ghost, living inside you, to help you through that plan. But, with all the equipment that God has available to every believer how can so many Christians be missing the mark? Simply put, they don't have their faith and trust where it should be.

Proverbs 3:5 Amplified Bible (AMP): Lean on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind and do not rely on your own insight or understanding.

2 Corinthians 5:6-8 Amplified Bible (AMP): So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. For we walk by faith, not by sight. We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

As new covenant believers we need to keep our faith in God and walk every day out by faith. Walking everyday out of our heart, checking it with our spirit and the Holy Spirit inside of us. The unfortunate thing is that some believers don't follow Proverbs 3:5 and are not relying on God with all their hearts. People like this are described in Proverbs 25.

Proverbs 25:19 Amplified Bible (AMP): Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble Is like a bad tooth and a foot out of joint.

When a person has a foot out of joint they surely will not trust that foot with the full weight of their body. Similarly some believers treat God that way, like an out of joint foot. They don't have their confidence where it should so they don't walk by faith they are moved by the circumstances around them. So if you are in this situation you need to ask yourself, what is your faith in?

Before I end this message I want to share a few more scriptures on faith.

Matthew 21:19-22 Amplified Bible (AMP): And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away. And when the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, How soon is the fig tree withered away! Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea it shall be done. An all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

This passage is then confirmed in Mark 11.

Mark 11:23-24 Amplified Bible (AMP): Truly I tell you, whoever says to this mountain, Be lifted up and thrown into the sea! And does not doubt at all in his heart but believes that what he says will take place, it will be done for him. For this reason I am telling you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe (trust and be confident) that it is granted to you, and you will (get it).

These set of scriptures paint a very important picture for every believer who is learning to walk by faith. You have to have something on your heart to pray and believe for it to come to pass in your life. If God has put something in your heart to do, He surely has equipped you to do it and your faith will produce it to happen. But, you have to do what is says in these scriptures: say it out your mouth, believe and not doubt in your heart, and believe you have received it. These three things are very important when using your faith for something you are believing for. Also, remember it may not happen right away, but God will make provision for you right on time when you truly need it, no when you think you do. Keeping faithful to God and Keeping God faithful are keys when being in expectancy or in faith.

As I end this message keep in mind to be connected or in fellowship with God. 1 Corinthians 15:18 Amplified says "...those who have died in (spiritual fellowship and union with) Christ have perished (are lost)!" We want to keep "hooked-up" to the vine (look back at previous messages) and be listening to what He has to say and what direction to go. And remember we are not alone, we have the Holy Spirit inside of us helping us and guiding us through the tough decisions. So don't forget that when you are in a confusing situation. Take the time out to consult with your own personal counselor on the inside of you. Remember you are more than a conqueror and with the Holy Ghost inside of you no weapon formed against you will prosper! Amen!