



Mighty in the Word

*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;
But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (I Cor. 1.18).*

*Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)
The Wise Still Seek Him*

*of the
Lord
Jesus Christ*

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This Kind Goeth Not Out But By Prayer and Fasting

How often I meet people who say, I pray! I have failed to ask them, "What is it you are praying and to whom?" I am concerned it is a *want list*, seeking to have their wants fulfilled. Perhaps it is like a list given to *Santa Clause* or to a genie.

Oh, to know the great preachers of the past who have spent hours in prayer in the early mornings before their day begins, touches my life profoundly; and I realize how short I fall in my Christian walk with the Lord. Some of them spent up to eight hours a day. I cannot even fathom four hours as many were on their knees in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Today (1/28/20), I opened the Bible, and it fell open to the following passage. I almost went to the passage I was going to read, when something caused me to hesitate and read the passage at hand (Mt 17.14-21), especially verse 21.

And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a *{certain}* man, kneeling down to him, and saying,
Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water.
And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him.
Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me.
And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour.
Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out?
And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.
Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

Let us look at the verse carefully. "Howbeit this kind . . ." What is meant by "this kind"?

When we look at the Greek, the word is genos, meaning "kindred: offspring, family, stock, tribe, nation." Verse 18 of Matthew 17 makes this clear when put with verse 21. "And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured

Where are you in Book of Joshua? Oh, how glorious when the Lord God Almighty overtook Jericho and how He did it – and the beauty of the Lord's work on their behalf.

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.
By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.
And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and *{of}* Barak, and *{of}* Samson, and *{of}* Jephthae; *{of}* David also, and Samuel, and *{of}* the prophets:
Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,
Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

**Are you willing to compass your Jericho under the Lord's command,
to go and overcome the enemy -**

in prayer and fasting (Heb 11.30-34)?

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Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).

from that very hour." Genos (**évoç**) is referring to the enemy, that kind of enemy, that kind of devil as is found in the following verse from Matthew 12.45.

Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last (*state*) of that man is worse than the first.

Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

We fail to realize the enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy (Jn 10.10).

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.

The enemy comes with reinforcements while we, all too often, sit idly by, even opening the door for the enemy to come in – and, all too often, take up residence because we are too weak to fight; too careless in our failing to live a life of holiness unto the Lord God Almighty; too pleased with ourselves and prideful of whom the world has told us we are; too long walking with the world, too . . .

We have been led "down the pike" in believing the broad road is the way to a happy life, and God understands our sinful ways; some even believe He is blessing them. No, we are not all alike, nor are we meant to be alike. The world has brought together people in group settings so they will learn the ways of the enemy and walk with him, and your peers will like you, and intimidate you if you dare speak forth the Truth of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Know that Satan will never ask you or lead you to cross the chasm. He invites you to take one minuscule step at a time that feels no different from where you are each time you take a step with him – until, until you have crossed the chasm; and, at that time you will have no desire to return to the Lord. You have sold out to Satan, the enemy – your enemy. Do you hear this, Satan is your enemy – not your friend!

It is imperative that we, as the hymn states, stay "Near the Cross."

We need to realize that we cannot go against the enemy on our own. We need to know that we do not have the strength to fight on our own. There are times as we see above when we need to have others doing battle with us, more praying. I am not saying, say a little "Now I lay me down to sleep . . ." I am writing of going to battle with the Lord going before us.

When we write of preparing for war, for battle, we will not be found wanting; we will not be found without weapons – or would you?

And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?

And he answered, Fear not: for they that *[be]* with us *[are]* more than they that *[be]* with them.

And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain *[was]* full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha (II K 6.15-17).

Oh! Praise the Lord for the Elisha's of this faith that walks without doubting, knowing the Lord Jesus Christ is working on his behalf. Oh, where are the Elishas of today?

Oh! that our eyes would be opened to see the glory of the Lord! Oh, how I want my eyes to be opened to see the glory of the Lord! – Or, do I?

Oh, how Elisha walked with the Lord fighting his battles before him, bringing him to where He wants him. Oh, I believe Elisha, Joshua, King David, Paul, and many more were prayer warriors. They knew how to fight the battles before them in prayer and fasting.

Prayer and fasting is a time of emptying oneself of all that lies before them and around them. Prayer is seeking the Lord Jesus Christ, fighting the battle on your knees, not thinking of anything else, not getting up and down because things come to your mind you need to do. Going into battle in prayer is staying on your knees until the battle is won, until the victory has come.

We do not hear of "praying it through" anymore. It is just say some words and go on your way. I recall a well known pastor and his wife of many years ago were called to two different churches. They got on their knees and stay until the answer came through. My understanding is that the wife knew almost immediately where they were to go, but she stayed on her knees while the husband continued in prayer seeking the will of the Lord. When the answer came through to him, it was the same as the wife heard. They were not going to get up until the answer came.

There is a cost to see the glory of the Lord. I am reminded if Isaiah who saw, who experienced the glory of the Lord (Isa 6.1-8), who desired to serve the Lord.

Forgive me, but these stories of people who are said to have died and gone to heaven, come back telling about seeing Uncle Joe and Aunt Jane, and, oh! how beautiful it was, does not touch me I have even read how people have been asked by the Lord if the want to return to the earth or stay, and, yet, the answer is, "return to the earth."

Forgive me again, but . . . when I read Revelation 7.9-17, and oh, step into that experience, how would anyone already with the saints and angels worshiping the Lord around the throne be able to see two places, and desire to go back to the earth or even have thoughts of the earth. Something does not add up. I have yet to read where one of these ever saw the Lord. Oh, I hear about seeing a light – bulb? And calling that the Lord God. Oh, I am concerned about the world's impress upon our understanding of the Lord God Almighty, of heaven, of holiness in Christ Jesus. I have yet to read of anyone experiencing the Lord Jesus Christ, His glory, His love. It is all about Uncle Joe and Aunt Susie they got to see.

Oh, how the enemy comes to us to make us think, believe all is well, and heaven and the earth are one and the same. I ask, where is the fire that once burned so brightly in the hearts of those proclaiming with their lives the Word of the Lord, the glory of the Lord, salvation, heaven, hell (and yes, there is a hell), a life of holiness, the Cross of Calvary, The Love of God . . .

Oh, let us pray for what David has given to us in Psalm 34.7.

The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

O taste and see that the LORD *[is]* good: blessed *[is]* the man *[that]* trusteth in him.

O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for *[there is]* no want to them that fear him (Ps 34.7-9).

Oh, we need to look to the Lord God and walk with Him on the *Via Dolorosa*, knowing His presence, His will, in our lives, living for Him a life of holiness.

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus (Phi 4.6, 7).