



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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Be Strong in the Lord! Part I

There is much in the lectionary readings for today. As I read each of the readings, there poured forth much for many sermons – all that would strengthen us and encourage us. The message that is upon my heart for today is from II Timothy 2.

Hear the words:

Thou therefore, my son, **be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus** (2Ti 2:1).

Be strong in the Lord. These are words that speak to my heart as I desire to be strong in Jesus Christ. They are words that are also found in the Old Testament (Jer15.16).

I looked up the phrases, be not dismayed, fear not, be strong, be strong and of a good courage for the Lord your God is with you. I found that these words from the Holy Bible strengthened me. Oh, Beloved, the world says to you, Fear not; but they are talking of a worldly strength as they say Fear no man or fear not for you alone are almighty. They are even putting in you the teaching subliminally not to fear God. That is not what the Lord God in Jesus Christ teaches in His Holy Word, the Bible.

In fact, there is no fear or little fear of God, Himself, today. There is the teaching in the “churches” today who say, Oh, God does not want you to fear Him. In fact, fear in the Bible just means – uh - - love; someone must have translated the word incorrectly. Or - - well fear in the Bible meant love, so – well – we need just to love God. (Jer 7.4)

But, know that those standing on a pulpit who say this – well as I was writing this, it came to me that I write about those standing on a pulpit, when the Bible is blatant about calling them false shepherds, false prophets, and, perhaps I need to just say it out of Scripture. Read Ezekiel 34, the whole chapter. Read Isaiah 23 which speaks of “Lying Prophets,” especially in v 9 to the end of the chapter. Read Jeremiah 28 about Hananiah, the False Prophecy. Beloved, the Lord will have no mercy on those who lead His people astray. Even chapter 27 deals with this same issue, vv 9-10.

Awaken! Again, I say, awaken out of your sleep! You may believe that this is for yesteryear, a very long time ago or for a future, “very future.” Or, perhaps you are not even reading the Word of the Lord. Many are saying as did Hananiah, the false prophet in the days of yore, Peace, peace – how wonderful. All is well as now we have socialism, communism, Marxism and, to make it even better, we have other “isms,” etc.. We now have others whose law is accepted here . . . – though many do not

see, will experience the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ so powerfully that you will not be able to stand under such power, and will fear to tread where angels tread UNLESS you know the Lord’s hand is upon you – and, even then shall fear be with you lest you become one of the false ones, and lead others to hell.

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ (II Ti 2.3).

Now, know that if the Lord’s hand is upon you, you **WILL** be able to endure hardness. Know that you have entered into the Lord’s army, and the battle is raging and has been for a very long time and shall continue until Jesus comes for His Bride, His Holy Church, the true church.

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Co-laborers together for Jesus Christ

Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).

understand it is here nor do they care. They are in la-la land – believing they are untoouchable.

Those who are feeling their strength right now due to their – uh – is it culture? are going to find out they are no longer needed by the beast, the political beast in Revelation – which uses people who think they are big but are going to find out that they and the nation they are leading to hell are merely puppets when the time comes. Even the religious beast who is guiding people to the political beast will no longer be needed.

Now, you believe I am meddling? Fine, but let me prattle on as the British would say. Where am I going with this?

Let us go back to II Timothy, Chapter Two. The first words in the passage are **Be Strong**. No, we cannot stop there. **Be Strong – in – the grace – of the – Lord.** This is the Lord Jesus Christ. You cannot be strong in the Lord Jesus Christ if you do not know Him. No, I am not preaching about being strong as the world understands, I am preaching about being strong in His might, His strength. The Bible says when we are weak, then are we strong in Him. Not by might, not by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord (Zec 4.6). We must be strong in Jesus Christ – not another and not ourselves for we have no strength.

My colleague addressed this in one of the Messages written regarding the Lord's strength as found in II Chronicles 20 and from where comes our strength when we are walking in the Lord.

Let me clarify this a little more. Our strength comes from loving the Lord Jesus and worshiping the Lord as those two words are inseparable. But, know that when Jehoshaphat and the people of the Lord God in Christ Jesus experienced the powerful presence of the Lord, they bowed down and worshiped. This was not a warm fuzzy experience, but a mighty outpouring of the powerful presence of the Lord that would bring fear upon anyone in His presence. There was nothing to do but to bow down and worship.

However, if you know **not** the Lord God and His love for you, you might indeed defy Him at a time like this and scorn and mock Him, but know there is a mighty wind, an East wind – as I have heard it called, a wrath that is coming against those who are against the Lord Jesus Christ. Fear God! Fear God means to know His strength, His power, to know Him as Redeemer, Lover of Your soul, but also as the Creator who is all knowing, all powerful and - will have the last say. Fear not man when the God you fear is with you, when the Lord Jesus Christ is abiding in you and you in Him. He will not lose a battle, Beloved. Fear God (Mt 10.28).

Look at the mighty winds that bring tornados, hurricanes, tsunamis – the strength of destruction that comes with them – and, Beloved, you have seen nothing! Nothing compared to the mighty wind that is coming, to those who are against the Lord Jesus Christ. Let me restate this as some of you are saying, "Jesus won't touch me for I am not against Him." Let me tell you what the Holy Bible says in Luke 11.23 and Matthew 12.30, "He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth." If you are not standing with Jesus, if you have not given your life and heart – your whole being to Jesus Christ, you are not with Him; you **are** against Him.

Now, Fearing God and being strong in Him comes from "[Studying] to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Ti 2.15).

One cannot know whom to fear, or whom not to fear if one is not reading and studying the Word of the Lord. The Lord makes it clear that we are to fear Him – no, not a namby pamby relationship with the Lord that says that He is my buddy as is taught today, that God loves eve-ry bod-y and all is well. All is not well today, never has been, never will be until Jesus comes for His bride – no, not everyone, but His bride. A bride is in love and is living for the moment to be united in a way that cannot be until the Bridegroom comes (Song of Solomon 5.8-16).

Are you ready for that day to come? There's an old hymn that speaks of a day to come, "There's A Great Day Coming."

Are you ready for that day to come?

How are you preparing? There is a battle to be fought on God's terms. That battle will entail, as Paul told young Timothy, – well, let's look at the passage verse by verse.

Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus (II Ti 2.1).

Beloved, if your strength is in you, you are weak. The Lord will not provide for you, though you may seem strong. Beware for the enemy is a deceiver, the father of all lies. If you feel strong, you are weak. The Lord says throughout His Word, "fear not, be not afraid, be not dismayed, **for I, the Lord your God am with you to deliver you.**"

Right? Right!

Are you listening as you read the Word of the Lord? He says, "for I, the Lord your God..." If you are not totally committed to the Lord Jesus Christ, totally surrendered to the Lord Jesus Christ, not reading His Word daily and walking with Him in His way, you cannot know the Lord Jesus Christ. Knowing someone is not knowing about them. Beloved, it is being in love with them. The Hebrew understanding of "know" is an intimate knowing, a melding with the Beloved until you become one with Him. It is only as you become one with Him that you take on His likeness, that you take on His mind and heart and become all that He has of you to become in Him. It is only then that you live in His strength.

And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also (II Ti 2.2).

Many want to preach and teach. When I have asked people who say they are a preacher, a prophet, or teacher why it is they want to do that, it is because they want to. Some even ask me, don't you think I would make a good preacher, prophet, or teacher? But what they are saying, and even the false ones in larger churches today, is because it is lucrative, an easy way to make money, and also to feel that they have power. Paul is not talking about this to young Timothy. Paul suffered for the cause of Christ because he loved the Lord, worshiped the Lord, melded with the Lord. Paul knew of His love for him on the Cross of Calvary. People of God, don't preach, predict – uh, I mean prophecy, or teach unless you have been to the Cross, the Mercy Seat, and have loved, worshiped the Lord and wept for your sins. Love will bring you to weeping before the Lord for your sins, for who you are not. When standing at the Mercy Seat, you will