



# 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*

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of the  
Lord  
Jesus Christ

## Elisha Died of a Sickness

### **If Only He Had, Had More Faith! ??**

As I pray and talk about the times in which we live, there are those faithful "church-goers" who have all the answers. It is a shame they were not around for those of whom we read in the Word of the Lord, the Holy Bible. It is there we have a record of the persecution, the sickness, of the followers of God, some of whom were healed physically.

However, I am reminded of one who was not. He was willing to pray for the Lord's will in His life because of His love for the Lord and His trust in Him.

And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong (II Cor 12.7-10).

Someone said to me regarding this scripture, that it does not tell us anything. That the thorn in the flesh could have been something that was bothering him in his work, something that he was unhappy about, etc. Flesh does not mean anything; it just represents something, but not sickness or the body; just something irritated him.

Σάρξ

The New Testament was originally written in Greek, and the Greek word sarx, is (the soft substance of the living body, which covers the bones and is permeated with blood) of both man and beasts. Albert Barnes wrote:

All that can be known of this is, that it was some infirmity of the flesh, some bodily affliction or calamity, that was like the continual piercing of the flesh with a thorn [Gal 4:13](#); and that it was something that was designed to prevent spiritual pride. It is not indeed an improbable supposition that it was something that could be seen by others, and that thus tended to humble him when with them.

Galatians 4.13 is significant to the understanding of this verse, which few, if any, have cared to read.

## Do you know my Jesus?

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*Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).*

Ye know how through infirmity of the flesh I preached the gospel unto you at the first. And my temptation which was in my flesh ye despised not, nor rejected; but received me as an angel of God, [even] as Christ Jesus (Gal 4.13, 14).

We must walk with the Lord, trusting Him to do with us what He wills. When we are followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, we are His to be used as He sees fit - and for His glory. There are those of great faith who, like Paul, was not healed of the infirmity of the flesh, but were/are greatly used for the Kingdom of God. I believe we need to spend time on our knees praying for the followers of the Lord that each will have the faith to walk the *Via Dolorosa, The Way of the Cross*, in the will of the Lord.

Too often there are those who believe they will never be touched by anything, that God is protecting them - and they walk on, oblivious to the work of the Kingdom to which the Lord calls His followers. They believe they are just fine walking on, and never being touched with pain, spiritual, physical, or emotional. They have their eyes on themselves - not the Lord as did Elisha, Isaiah, Jeremiah, as did Paul, James, and many all through history who walked with the Lord, who took up their cross to follow Jesus, come what may.

The Psalmist understood well what it was to follow the Lord, and to trust the Lord as the Lord was his refuge and his fortress, and writes, "in Him will I trust."

I will say of the LORD, [He is] my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust (Ps 91.2).

Interestingly, someone with whom I had a brief conversation, saying to them that things are going to get more challenging, more difficult, and that the virus will come back - even perhaps in another form. This nation has sold out to Satan, and we are going to see and experience some very hard things, as have the martyrs of the Lord - - - called me with the following scripture, saying we are safe from harm because the following scripture tells us that.

Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord [is], there [is] liberty (II Co 3.17).

I cannot understand how people today are able to come up with their answers, and are so oblivious to what is going on, and what the Word of God in Christ Jesus says, and believes that the Lord protects the "good" people, so they have no concerns or worries. They have no understanding that many have given their lives in service for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Read II Timothy 3. Read it, and then read it again and again. It will be in the *Insert* for your convenience.

My point is that Elisha, Paul, and many others all through history were not exempt from suffering for the Lord. Paul states it clearly in his epistle to young Timothy.

But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of [them] all the Lord delivered me. Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution (II Tim 3.11-13).

When people come to you with the theology that if you are a Christian, life is wonderful from here on without sickness, without any harm - IF YOU HAVE FAITH, that is, go to the Word of God in Christ Jesus to see what the Lord God says, in spite of the false Christ's, false prophets, false pastors, false shepherds. There are many passages which make it clear that Satan is out to destroy the followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, to persecute, to steal, kill and destroy, the followers of Jesus Christ.

[We are] troubled on every side, yet not distressed; [we are] perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body (II Co 4.8-10).

Many, many years ago my mother got out of the vehicle to go into the Rexall Drug in the little town in which she lived when a drunk drove up on the wide concrete area in front of the stores and ran over her foot. I ask you, was that her fault? Did that happen because she lacked faith, believing nothing would ever happen to her because she was covered from the corporate sin of the world? No, she lived in the world, and was not exempt from so much that surrounds all of us.

Yes, I believe in healing, and I have experienced it in my twenties as I had rheumatoid arthritis of the spine. But, I do not carry a note pad to take note of those who lacked faith, and showed it by the deterioration of their aged bodies.

Luk 5:17 And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was [present] to heal them.

Luk 5:18 And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought [means] to bring him in, and to lay [him] before him.

Luk 5:19 And when they could not find by what [way] they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with [his] couch into the midst before Jesus.

Luk 5:20 And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.

When my late husband went home to be with the Lord Jesus Christ in 1987, there were those who came to me and said, If you had faith, he would not have died. Oh! the goodly people who walk around in long robes . . .

Beware of the scribes, which desire to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at feasts; Which devour widows' houses, and for a shew make long prayers: the same shall receive greater damnation (Lk 20.46, 47).

Paul endured much pain in more ways than one, but always he knew the Healer, the One Who healed first and foremost our souls, He, Who died on the Cross of Calvary, and shed His Blood on the Cross of Calvary, that we might repent of our sins and come to know Him as Lord and Savior and walk with Him, taking up our cross and following Him, walking with Him, all the way. Healing? Oh, how I long to walk, being a part of leading people to the Healer of their souls, that they shall walk with the Lord Jesus Christ through whatever comes to them.