

### #53 #54 #55 AUDIBLE WORDS.....

During a season of prayer and intercession and fasting these words were spoken to me on three separate occasions within a few days of each other. They were spoken at the moment I awakened and were audible to me.

*The first word: "Look unto me and be radiant."*

*The second word: "No weapon formed against thee shall succeed."*

*The third word: "I will in no wise fail thee."*

The first word is found in Psalm 34:5 and reads:

"They looked unto him, and were radiant; And their faces shall never be confounded (disappointed)."

If we look at our lot or circumstances at times we will be disappointed. Life, friends and various situations can and do disappoint us. When we look with natural or unspiritual eyes we will find much to frustrate us. We must learn to gaze more into God's face and not so much at our natural surroundings. We need to learn to draw grace and faith from Him. When we are hedged in on all sides and feel trapped, we must look up with faith and trust to God to deliver---He will either deliver us in the furnace or out of it. Dark hours and days are part of our lot, and are needed to mature us in faith and spiritual growth.

God is always there, though we do not see Him. Just because the night comes does not mean the sun has burned out---it is simply being hidden by the earth. So in the spirit realm God is there, but we are often looking too intently to the earthly to perceive this. God will give us light or His voice in the dark valleys. Moses' face shone for he was in God's glorious light. Jesus was transformed while in the Father's presence on the mount of transfiguration. Often at those times their outward lot had changed little, yet they knew and had God's radiant presence to sustain them. We must stay in that presence for that Light to radiate through us.

The second word, "No weapon formed against you shall succeed", is found in the fifty-fourth chapter of Isaiah---read the whole chapter for its context. This tells us that we shall have some enemies assault us which come by God's permission only. As we place our faith in Him and in His righteousness we shall overcome these foes. A faith without true spiritual works of abiding and yielding is a false faith and will lead many to destruction. True faith and righteousness can only be seen as real if they are working out of that soul---no greasy grace or license to sin here! Mental acceptance of a doctrine of grace and faith without the corresponding fruit and works is proof alone that it is a false grace and faith.

With Christ as our Lord in word and in deed, no enemy is a match for us. No trial or temptation will come that God is not more than able to give grace to withstand and overcome. No, it is a sad soul that believes he or she shall have victory without yielding to God's grace and provision. We not only stand in the victory that Christ provides, but we move on to take more ground. Let us be realistic about positional victory and practical victory. False teachers will pacify souls into thinking they can have one without the other---not so, my friends. Remember again, righteousness imparted will be holiness in its outworking.

Caleb, a man of faith and obedience, said in Numbers 13:30:

“...Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.”

Now, you know the story---God had promised Israel the land of milk and honey. He had given it to them, yet they had to go up and take it from their enemies. They started well on their spiritual trip from bondage, but soon ceased their journey. Not only were they disobedient and rebellious against God’s will, but they wanted to destroy those who would obey. My friends, it has not changed much today, has it? The professing, carnal and nominal Christians are still with us. Not only do they not have the faith and obedience to be overcomers, but they seek to hinder others from going on with God. Like the Pharisees they will persecute in order to justify themselves.

Why, our church buildings are full of them---fearful cowards, lazy and unbelieving of true practical Christianity, possessing a form of godliness with no real power or godliness. This will offend many but it is so true---these will not make it into heaven! Like those in the wilderness that refused to overcome, they will be overcome. They all died in the desert never tasting the milk and honey of that land. Yet some will advance and conquer those giants and win great spoil.

Again Caleb, that man of a different spirit, tries in vain to encourage those rebels with:

“Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us...” (Numbers 14:9 KJV).

Do you understand? Those adversaries who attempt to hinder and eat us, we will find as food for ourselves. We will overcome in a practical way, or we will be overcome by our spiritual enemies---it is just that way. We must ever remind ourselves that as true Christians we are in a state of spiritual war until we enter heaven’s doors.

Our battles are to teach and mature us for further usefulness in this life, and to determine our rewards and rank in heaven. Be not deceived, friends, talk and mind-belief alone are not true Christianity. Grace and fruit, faith and works, crowns and crosses and, yes, overcoming in battles are the real proofs of true faith and Christianity. We may deceive ourselves into thinking we have to believe some mental information about God’s Word and that is enough. Why, do you know the devil himself knows more about the Scriptures than we do, yet it has not saved him, has it? True Christianity is a lifestyle and a practical walk, not just a mental assent to some doctrinal teaching of the Scriptures.

Christianity is Christ living in us and through us. Salvation is the vital union of Christ in us and living experientially with us. Why, some will say we should not scare people and make them doubt their salvation. If they have the real born-again experience the Spirit will bear witness with them, and we will not have to convince them of the unreality of head-game Christianity. Better to shake up a few souls and cause them to seek God for truth than to have these same souls stand speechless before God at the judgment day and find themselves sentenced to hell. Although we may make a few enemies in the process, at least their blood will not be on our hands! Yes, some may even turn to God by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The third word, “I will in no wise fail thee”, is a true statement of God and of God’s Word. God is as good as His word and that is good, indeed. One of my favorite words in Scripture is found in I Kings 8:56:

“...according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise...” (KJV).

You can be sure that God's promises and words will stand. Where that promise or word applies to man, man needs to be faithful to do his part. God will not fail us, but the real question is shall we fail Him? Many a Christian has gone down in defeat---some of us have tasted defeat also. We did not fulfill our part of yielding and obeying, but blamed God and became bitter and resentful. However, it was our own laziness, unbelief and failure to persevere that cost us the victory.

We had best be careful to place the blame where it truly belongs, and not imitate Satan in falsely accusing God. We must be humble and honest enough to acknowledge the truth. If we are defeated we can not blame God---or even man or the devil. Now man and the devil may tempt and hinder, but if we are defeated there is one person to blame. Go into your bedroom, look in the mirror and point your finger directly ahead and say to that person standing there, "It is your fault!"

Is this condemnation? Indeed not, it is truth. Truth brings conviction that will guide us to help and victory. When a soul blames everyone for his or her defeats and failures, that soul will never progress with God, for that lie will keep them bound to the past. Confession of sin and true repentance is the fastest way to be delivered from bondage. Too many Christians are turning to needless inner-healing, counselling and prayers of others when their sin is the problem.

Surely it would be easier to blame a demon and feel excused. It would be easier to blame someone else for our failures and get wasted sympathy which only feeds self-pity---a deadly sin. Surely some need deliverance and inner-healing, but most Christians' problems could be solved by true confession of sins and turning from them. Much deliverance and healing is sought when, in many cases, a good dose of the cross and self-denial is needed. The old nature can not be cast out nor can it be healed. It must die! This is called losing our life. Whatever happened to the biblical truth of losing one's life in order to find it?

Today we are told to love ourselves and to lead our own lives. Sad but true, most of our churches are little more than places to go to have our egos and selfish desires pacified, indulged and pampered. Woe to the preachers who do this! Take a look, friends, at most of the television and radio ministers who seem to gain such notoriety. Why are they so popular? They feed the egos and the materialistic and covetous desires of the masses---giving to get, promising gimmicks and smooth words to pamper souls in their self-seeking, earthly ways. Yes, they are teachers with itching ears looking for and finding people wanting smooth words. Christ said, "If the blind lead the blind they both shall fall in the ditch."

A final thought on this subject: let us stay close to God's Word and rightly divide and heed it, not adding or subtracting to satisfy our own selfish desires. If we do not rightly divide God's Word we shall be open to seducing spirits.