God Gave Us His Word to Live Victoriously in Life

February 2014

Dear Friend and Partner,

Mark 11:22-24: And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Jesus gave us these verses so we'd know how to receive from God, how to release our faith, and how to remove mountains *(the problems we face in life)*. If you're going to live in victory in your Christian life, you cannot be passive. No matter what you may think, or what others may tell you, you have to deal with hindrances to your faith that come from Satan, called doubt and unbelief. Whether you realize it or not, Satan's whole objective in your life is to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10, Job 2:7, Luke 13:16). As a believer, you've got to deal with Satan. Jesus defeated the devil and conquered him (1 Corinthians 2:6, Colossians 2:15) and He told us to resist the devil and he would flee. **Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.** James 4:7

1 Peter 5:8,9: Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

Being Passive and Waiting for God Won't Work

A lot of Christians have adopted the idea that if God wants them to have something, He'll just give it to them. They say things like: *"If it's the will of God, it'll happen."* Some believers go as far as to say, *"I want everything God has for me. If God wants me to have it, I want it."* These statements sound religious; they sound good, and they may seem humble. But it's not being humble to say, *"If God wants me to have it, He'll just give it to me."* That is being ignorant of God's Word and how to apply it, or it's unbelief. Christians who believe and talk that way do not receive healing, or the baptism of the Holy Spirit speaking in other tongues (Mark 6:1-6, Mark 16:17,18; Luke 11:13) or anything else God has promised in His Word.

Jesus gave us Mark 11:23 to remove mountains and problems in our life, and He gave us verse 24 to receive whatever we desire through the prayer of faith. Too much today is being left up to God. Therefore, too many believers aren't receiving what they need from God. If you leave the responsibility of healing, or baptism of the Holy Spirit speaking in other tongues up to God, it's not going to happen. No one gets born again by saying if God wants to do it, He'll do it. Each individual person *must, on their own*, receive Jesus Christ as Lord. That <u>if thou shalt confess</u> with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and [if thou] shalt <u>believe</u> in <u>thine heart</u> that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart <u>man believeth</u> unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For <u>whosoever shall call</u> upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Romans 10:9,10,13

If you are going to get results with God's Word, you first must find out what He said in His Word about what you need from Him. And then, take those verses of scripture and build your faith up in that area. Usually, when a person uses Mark 11:23 and/or 24, and doesn't get results with them, it's because their faith wasn't built up enough. And when they fail to receive from God, or fail to get the Word to work for them, they usually adopt the idea that it wasn't God's will for them to receive it, or they decide: '*That faith stuff just doesn't work.*'

It's Up to You to Receive What God has Provided

If you don't receive from God, it's going to be your fault. You're not waiting for God to do something; He's waiting for you to use your faith! As Christians, we need to grow up spiritually. We don't want to be spiritual kindergarteners. We want to take responsibility to develop our own faith life and get results. In regard to Satan, you want to take the Word, speak it out of your mouth in the Name of Jesus until Satan flees from you. No amount of doubt, unbelief, fear, worry, pain, sickness, disease, poverty or lack is from God; *they are all from Satan.* And, it is your responsibility, as a believer, to make those kinds of problems leave you! (*Mark 11:23*)

If you had a choice between a minister praying about your problem, or giving you a verse that would eliminate your problem, which would you rather have? Too many believers would rather have the prayer than the verse. Thank God for prayer, but we cannot live successfully on others' prayers; we live on the Word. Jesus said so in Matthew 4:4: But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Problems come from Satan. You can't deal with Satan apart from the Word. (Matthew 4:1-11, Ephesians 6:10-18) You want to get enough of God's Word inside you so that when something happens, the first thing you consult is the Word. The first thing you should think of is, *'What does the Word say about this?'*

John 15:7: If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

John 8:31,32: Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Resisting the Devil Requires God's Word

Until the believer knows what belongs to them in Christ Jesus (which comes through a knowledge of God's Word) they will be unsuccessful at resisting the devil. And you are going to want to stop Satan, whether you realize it or not. That's because he's going to do everything he can to steal, kill and destroy things in your life. Just knowing God loves you is not going to be enough to stop Satan. You want to become skillful in the Word of righteousness (Hebrews 5:12-14) so when anything comes up that is depressing, life-threatening, (or what some would call anything negative) ask yourself if you've taken authority over the situation. Ask yourself if you have spoken to it in Jesus' Name.

Confession of God's Word is Good

Hebrews 10:23: Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Romans 4:17-21: (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations; according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

You don't ever want to dislike or have ill feelings against faith confessions. Satan wants you to be offended over confessing God's Word, so you will leave him alone. It is advantageous for you not to make statements such as: *"I don't believe in all that confession stuff."* If you're born again, whether you realize it or not, you got born again through that *'confession stuff'* (Romans 10:9). You are **not** manipulating God through confessions of faith; you **are** using spiritual principles to stop and prevent the devil from doing anything to you, and you **are** using those same spiritual principles to receive anything God's already done for you through Christ Jesus.

Everything in the world as you know it is going to change, but if you keep yourself built up in God's Word, no matter what the world goes through, you can still enjoy the abundant life that God has bought for you through Jesus Christ.

Your faith is precious. Don't neglect it; keep feeding it on God's Word. You are going to need your faith, and you are going to need it to be strong. Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: 2 Peter 1:1

I want to encourage you to keep feeding your faith on God's Word by reading promises from His Word every day. Start the day out in God's Word. Put an hour in reading those promises, an hour in praying in tongues (Matthew 26:40). You will become much more effective spiritually - and that's what it's all about anyway!

Your Word of faith pastor,

Pastor Jesse Rich

This month, when you send in your offering, I'm going to pray over it and believe God for your hundredfold return, according to Mark 10:29,30.

You can give to Jesse Rich Ministries through PayPal at: www.JesseRichMinistries.com And, you can watch the Word of Faith television program on YouTube!