

KNIGHTS FOR CHRIST



The ARMOR *of* GOD

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Ephesians 6:11

Bill Johnson

24 VIRTUES OF A GODLY MAN



**He gives strength
to the weary
and increases the
power of the weak.**

-Isaiah 40:29

GOD'S STRENGTH

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THE VIRTUE OF STRENGTH

- DEFINE STRENGTH:
THE BIBLICAL DEFINITION OF STRENGTH DOES NOT REFER TO PHYSICAL POWER OR STRENGTH. IT REFERS INSTEAD OF THE QUALITIES OF OUR INNER MAN. WHEN KING DAVID WAS DYING, HE SPOKE TO HIS SON SOLOMON AND TOLD HIM TO BE STRONG. THIS STATEMENT DIDN'T TELL SOLOMON TO BE BUFF AND WORK OUT MORE, IT TOLD HIM TO BE A MAN WHO WAS GROUNDED IN THE SPIRIT OF AND PRINCIPLES OF THE WORD OF GOD.

- “AS DAVID’S TIME TO DIE DREW NEAR, HE CHARGED SOLOMON HIS SON, SAYING, I AM GOING THE WAY OF ALL THE EARTH. BE STRONG, THEREFORE, AND SHOW YOURSELF A MAN. KEEP THE CHARGE OF THE LORD YOUR GOD, TO WALK IN HIS WAYS, TO KEEP HIS STATUTES, HIS COMMANDMENTS, HIS ORDINANCES, AND HIS TESTIMONIES, ACCORDING TO WHAT IS WRITTEN IN THE LAW OF MOSES, THAT YOU MAY SUCCEED IN ALL THAT YOU DO AND WHEREVER YOU TURN.” 2 KINGS 2:1-3

- OBVIOUSLY, WE NEED THE STRENGTH OF GOD TO SUCCEED IN THE SPIRITUAL REALM. THE GREATEST IN THE KINGDOM WILL BE THE PERSON WHO SUBMITS TO THE WILL OF GOD IN ALL THINGS. WE DON'T NEED TO BE STRONG IN THE PHYSICAL BUT INSTEAD WE NEED TO HEED THE SCRIPTURE FOUND IN EPHESIANS 6

BE EPHESIANS 6:10
STRONG
IN THE LORD

- EPHESIANS 6:10 FINALLY, MY BRETHREN, BE STRONG IN THE LORD, AND IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT.

AS A WEIGHT LIFTER IN COMPETITION HAS STRENGTH, IT IS BECAUSE OF BUILDING HIS BODY FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE COMPETITION, THE RACE, THE REWARD. HE MUST CONDITION HIMSELF, AND KNOW HIS ABILITIES AND LIMITATIONS.

AS BELIEVERS, WE TOO, MUST CONDITION OURSELVES TO KNOW OUR ABILITIES, BY KNOWING GOD'S ABILITIES, HIS STRENGTHS, HIS POWER, HIS MIGHT.

- **FINALLY (KEY WORD)**

FINALLY MY BRETHREN, AFTER ALL THESE THINGS THAT YOU HAVE BEEN TAUGHT, HEARD AND LEARNED, AS BELIEVERS IN CHRIST...

FINALLY, AFTER EVERYTHING ELSE, TO WRAP IT UP, TO BRING IT TO ITS FULL MEANING, TO COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND THAT WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN TAUGHT...

IF YOU DON'T LEARN ANYTHING NEW, LEARN THIS...

BE STRONG IN THE LORD, AND IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT

THE SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL STRENGTH

- 1. HUMILITY- GOD SAYS THAT HE GIVES STRENGTH AND FAVOR TO THE HUMBLE BUT RESISTS THE PROUD
- 2. RESISTING THE ENEMY-WE GAIN STRENGTH FROM THE LORD WHEN WE STAND AGAINST THE ENEMY. WE FLEE FROM THE ENEMY AND TO THE LORD
- 3. RECOGNITION OF OUR WEAKNESS- WHEN WE CONFESS OUR WEAKNESS WE CAN COVER THEM WITH THE STRENGTH OF GOD
- 4. SERVICE TO CHRIST-SERVING HIM MAKES US CONSCIOUS OF THE POWER OF PUTTING OTHERS FIRST IN OUR LIFE
- 5. PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST-WITHOUT KNOWING THE LORD WE CAN'T POSSIBLY ACCESS HIS STRENGTH.

STRENGTH IN TEMPTATION

- 2 CORINTHIANS 2: 9 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. 10 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.

- SATAN IS REFERRED TO AS THE 'STRONGMAN' WHO IS TRYING IN EVERYWAY TO DEFEAT MANKIND. BUT WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS THROUGH JESUS. AS WE FACE THE TEMPTATION, WE CAN DRAW UPON THE STRENGTH OF THE LORD TO BREAKDOWN STRONGHOLDS AND RECEIVE BREAKTHROUGHS IN OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE. IN OUR FLESH WE WILL YIELD TO THE ONSLAUGHT OF THE DEVIL. OUR LOVE FOR GOD AND OUR DESIRE TO NOT DISAPPOINT HIM WILL KEEP US IN LINE. WE NEED TO CREATE A CHRISTIAN PRESSURE GREATER THAN THE TEMPTATION.

STRENGTH IN TROUBLE

- PSALM 37:39 BUT THE SALVATION OF THE RIGHTEOUS IS OF THE LORD: HE IS THEIR STRENGTH IN THE TIME OF TROUBLE.

PSALM 50:15 AND CALL UPON ME IN THE DAY OF TROUBLE: I WILL DELIVER THEE, AND THOU SHALT GLORIFY ME.

- IT TAKES DISCIPLINE OF THE MIND TO MAKE YOUR FIRST RESPONSE FAITH INSTEAD OF FEAR. THE ENEMY OF OUR SOUL WILL TRY TO MAKE US AFRAID OF THE SITUATION THAT WE ARE IN AND BELIEVE IT IS TOO HARD FOR GOD TO HELP YOU. NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH THE LORD. HE IS YOUR STRENGTH IN TIME OF TROUBLE.

STRENGTH IN SICKNESS

- PSALM 41:3 THE LORD WILL GIVE THEM STRENGTH WHEN THEY ARE SICK, AND HE WILL MAKE THEM WELL AGAIN.
- JAMES 5:13 IS ANY AMONG YOU AFFLICTED? LET HIM PRAY.
- ONE WAY THE ENEMY WILL ATTACK YOUR SPIRIT IS THROUGH YOUR BODY. SICKNESS IN YOUR FLESH CAN MAKE YOU OPEN TO ATTACK IN THE SPIRITUAL REALM. OUR IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO PHYSICAL TRAUMA SHOULD BE A SPIRITUAL ONE. GOD CAN HELP US WHEN WE ARE SICK AND GIVE US THE GRACE TO ENDURE AND NOT FALL VICTIM TO THE ENEMY DURING THE PROCESS.

STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS

- ISAIAH 40:31 BUT THE PEOPLE WHO TRUST THE LORD WILL BECOME STRONG AGAIN. THEY WILL RISE UP AS AN EAGLE IN THE SKY; THEY WILL RUN AND NOT NEED REST; THEY WILL WALK AND NOT BECOME TIRED.
- THE ACT OF TRUST IS A CONTINUING PROCESS. THE PROCESS REQUIRES US TO “WAIT” UPON THE LORD. TRUST AND WAITING ARE AN ACTIVE THING NOT JUST PUTTING YOUR FEET UP AND WAITING FOR GOD TO MOVE FOR YOU.
- ISAIAH 40:29 ²⁹ HE GIVES POWER TO THE FAINT AND WEARY, AND TO HIM WHO HAS NO MIGHT HE INCREASES STRENGTH [CAUSING IT TO MULTIPLY AND MAKING IT TO ABOUND].

- 2 CORINTHIANS 12:9 AMPLIFIED BIBLE (AMP)
⁹ BUT HE SAID TO ME, MY GRACE (MY FAVOR AND LOVING-KINDNESS AND MERCY) IS ENOUGH FOR YOU [SUFFICIENT AGAINST ANY DANGER AND ENABLES YOU TO BEAR THE TROUBLE MANFULLY]; FOR *MY* STRENGTH AND POWER ARE MADE PERFECT (FULFILLED AND COMPLETED) *AND SHOW THEMSELVES MOST EFFECTIVE* IN [YOUR] WEAKNESS. THEREFORE, I WILL ALL THE MORE GLADLY GLORY IN MY WEAKNESSES AND INFIRMITIES, THAT THE STRENGTH AND POWER OF CHRIST (THE MESSIAH) MAY REST (YES, MAY PITCH A TENT OVER AND DWELL) UPON ME!

STRENGTH IN SERVICE

- PROVERBS 16.2 COMMIT THY WORKS UNTO THE LORD, AND THY THOUGHTS SHALL BE ESTABLISHED.
- EPHESIANS 2:10 FOR WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS UNTO GOOD WORKS, WHICH GOD HATH BEFORE ORDAINED THAT WE SHOULD WALK IN THEM.
- HEBREWS 13:21 MAKE YOU PERFECT IN EVERY GOOD WORK TO DO HIS WILL, WORKING IN YOU THAT WHICH IS WELL PLEASING IN HIS SIGHT, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST; TO WHOM BE GLORY FOR EVER AND EVER.

- THE MORE WE SERVE GOD IN HUMILITY THAT WE ARE STRENGTHENED IN EVERY WAY.
- THE POWER OF GOD INCREASES AS WE GIVE OF OURSELVES IN SERVICE TO HIM AND OTHERS. WE WILL ALWAYS FIND THAT WHEN WE ARE BUSY DOING WHAT WE KNOW WHAT GOD HAS CALLED US TO IT GIVES US GREAT CONFIDENCE THAT THE LORD OUR GOD WILL DEFEND US AND GIVE US STRENGTH TO FACE THOSE STRUGGLES THAT THE ENEMY WILL USE. BEING WHERE GOD CALLED US DOING WHAT HE CALLED US TO DO, PULLS ONWARD WITH STRENGTH THAT IS HIS NOT OURS.

STRENGTH IN WARFARE

- 2 SAMUEL 22:40 FOR THOU HAST GIRDED ME WITH STRENGTH TO BATTLE: THEM THAT ROSE UP AGAINST ME HAST THOU SUBDUED UNDER ME.
- EPHESIANS 6:11 PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD, THAT YE MAY BE ABLE TO STAND AGAINST THE WILES OF THE DEVIL.
- WE NEED GOD'S STRENGTH IN WARFARE. 2 CORINTHIANS 10 TELLS US THAT WE ARE NOT FIGHTING A PHYSICAL WAR BUT INSTEAD HAVE TO DEPEND ON THE STRENGTH AND ABILITY OF GOD'S OWN WEAPONS. HE WILL STRENGTHEN US IN THE MIDST OF OUR BATTLES. DON'T TRY TO FIGHT IN THE FLESH BUT LEAN ON THE LORD AND HIS ABILITY.



PRAISE HIM IN THE STORM

