

“FEAR NOT” BUT “KEEP MAKING SPIRITUAL PROGRESS”

TEXT I: Isaiah 41:10 (NKJV)

**“Fear not, for I *am* with you; Be not dismayed, for I *am* your God.
I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you,
I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.’**

In this scripture, God is not speaking to a perfect person. But to someone who has slipped and thus feels endangered.

Proverb 3:3 tells us “Let not MERCY and TRUTH forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart, ⁴ *And* so find FAVOUR and HIGH ESTEEM in the sight of God and man.”

The therapy when we are confronted with issues or slip is to run to God with the TRUTH about the situation and ask for His MERCY. God is not looking for our perfection, He is looking for our humility – our supplication.

David was not perfect, yet he said

“I sought the LORD, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears.” (Psalm 34:4)

Take time off with Him so He can renew your strength.

“For those who wait on the LORD Shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.” (Isaiah 40:31)

Joshua 1:9

“Have I not commanded you? **Be strong and courageous.** Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

Confess Positively

David would say:

“Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. (Psalm 23:4).

Thank God in advance

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication (humility) with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (**Philippians 4:6-7**)

Be Attentive to the Word of God for the Hour and Obey

In 1King 17:11, when Elijah arrived in Zarephath there was a woman in desperate poverty, gathering sticks on the dump outside the city. Elijah asks her for a drink, and as the woman

turns to go and get the water, Elijah says “And bring me some bread”

¹² “As surely as the LORD your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”

This was the woman’s thought but that was not God’s plan for her and is not what God says concerning her situation

¹³ Elijah said to her, “**Don’t be afraid.** Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son.

¹⁴ **For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says:** ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the land.’”

We must listen and adhere to what God says concerning our current situation.

¹⁵ She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. ¹⁶ For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

**For Christians, Elijah today is the Spirit of God in Us.
What is the Spirit saying to you concerning your situation?**

Romans 8:¹³For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of **slavery that returns you to fear**, but you received the Spirit of sonship, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”

Finally, Consistently live by the Spirit of God

Mark 8:35 “For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it.” (Mark 8:35).

Ephesians 6: 10-19

¹⁰ ... be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the [b]wiles of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of [c]the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

If we don't take up the armor, our life is exposed. We must be consistent and diligent in our work with God.

Paul added (Ephesians 6:19-20)

“— ¹⁹ and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.”

Taking clue from Paul, let us seal-up our zeal for God by identifying an avenue to become true Ministers (ambassadors) of the Gospel (find an channel to be ministering the word of God with boldness and consistency).

Brethren, like Paul did (Ephesians 1), I pray :

¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to each of us the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ the eyes of our understanding being enlightened; that we may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe. **God Bless You!**