Berachah Prophetic Ministries

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BERACHAH PROPHETIC VOICE MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Life time subscription Inside India - Rs.1500 Other Countries - \$300

Yearly subscription

Inside India - Rs.150 Other Countries - \$30 Dearly Beloved of God,

FROM

Greetings in the mighty name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

YHEART

What a joy to celebrate God's faithfulness together in the last month of this year 2017. You, the new creation, have enough light in you to lighten the entire universe. You are truly the light of the world (Mt.5:14)! You can dispel darkness wherever you find it! You bring light to your home and to your entire world. The darkness around you, no matter how dense it may be, can never overpower you or dim your light even a bit! Don't sit and wail over the darkness or the powers of darkness. Simply rise up to your position and rebuke all works of darkness (Eph.5:11). Send your light through prayer and praise! Design your life according to God's Word! Fill your life with the Holy Spirit and SHINE!

At present, we have 358 precious ladies from 19 different states of India and from United Kingdom and Dubai for our 12th batch of the School of the Holy Spirit for Ladies (L-SOHS). We experienced powerful mass deliverance and many inner healings. The strongholds satan was building in their minds were destroyed by Jesus Christ, the living Truth. By God's grace, all students are experiencing a deep work of the Holy Spirit in their lives and enjoying days of heaven on earth. Pray that every one of them may go from here totally liberated in spirit, soul and body and do a powerful work for Jesus in their respective places.

We have Leadership Training School for Brothers and Couples from January 19th to February 23rd, 2018. We have organized this school especially for senior ministers and leaders who cannot leave their responsibilities for full three month. If you have a desire to enter



another level of anointing and ministry, this school is for you. You will definitely see a greater level of glory in your ministry after attending the school.

Our Apostles and Prophets seminar is from 19thto 23rdof February. If you are an apostle or a prophet or you have a calling to become an apostle or prophet, this seminar is for you. Come and be blessed.

We are praying and planning for the next phase of our ministry in the coming years. God has promised to give the best professionals to work with us for His Kingdom. Pray and be a part of it. Continue also to pray New Testament commentary work.

From November 30th to 2ndDecember, we will have our Prayer Conference in our Poondi Campsite. This conference is open for all. Our nations need our prayer like never before. The spirit of prayer and intercession will be released from your life and change your nations.

Remember our families, counsellors, leaders, and office staff in Poondi and our Chennai Headquarters in your prayers.

May the Lord use you mightily in this End Time harvest and empower you to face all your challenges victoriously. We wish you a very joyful and happy Christmas!

Your brother in Christ.

ABr Chl Framis





Answering continues...

QUESTION 2

Tongues must be understood by the listener. That's what happened on the day of Pentecost, when 120 spoke and everybody understood. Today, however, nobody understands when somebody speaks in tongues. Is it really a language or a mere blabbering?

ANSWER

You asked the right question. Yes, others could understand the tongues spoken at Pentecost, but that's only a half-truth. Thousands had gathered, but those 120 didn't speak so many languages. If you calculate it correctly, they spoke around 20 languages. I don't think all could understand their languages.

Some could understand the wonderful works of God in their own language, but others couldn't understand. That's why they mocked them saying, these men are full of new wine (Ac.2:11-13). To them, Peter had to explain, *"these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day"* (Ac.2:15). Please don't think the languages of the 120 were understood by all. For some, it was a real language; for others, it was simply a blabbering of a drunkard.

Let me ask you a question. How many languages do you know? In India alone, there are

Dr. Ezekiah Francis

about 1800 languages. Suppose you know only two or three languages, if somebody speaks a fourth language, will it not be a meaningless blabbering to you? The Bible says there are different kinds of tongues. There are human languages and angels' languages (1.Co.13:1). Can you understand the language of angels?

Now tell me the meaning of Paul's comments on tongues.

"For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries" (1.Co.14:2). Here, Paul is very clear that **no one** understands the tongues of edification and mystery. Are you not included in this 'no one'?

Why do you need to understand the secrets between God and the tongue-talker? Are you God?

Let me ask you another question. If others must understand our tongues, where is the need of the gift of interpretation (1.Co.12:10; 14:13)?

Yet I have to accept another truth. The Holy Spirit wants to manifest such tongues that others can understand directly. I can give you many testimonies to prove it.

I read about the Azusa Street Revival. The Pentecostal revival was born out of it. The Holy Spirit was poured out mightily in those days. People who were baptized by the Holy Spirit spoke different languages. Some spoke Japanese, some Chinese, some spoke African languages. None of them knew these languages naturally. They were sent as missionaries to the countries where their particular Spirit-given language was spoken. Surprisingly, whenever they stood up to preach in that country, they could preach in that language. After preaching, they couldn't even speak a word. For some others, that language ceased once they stepped into that country, and they had to learn the language by themselves. When the Holy Spirit is poured out in such greater way, we should expect these kinds of manifestations.

I heard many testimonies of people being saved when such languages were manifest in prayer meetings. Also in India, we have such testimonies.

I know a senior pastor in South India. He used to work in a secular job, using his spare time for ministry. He established a church and earnestly prayed for a full-time pastor to take over. While conducting the church dedication service, an illiterate village woman was so filled with the Holy Spirit she began to prophecy over him in beautiful fluent English: "I have called you for full-time ministry as shepherd for My flock." The pastor who knew this woman very well resigned his job immediately and took up full-time ministry. Today, he has planted hundreds of churches all over.

Friends, God can do anything. Many such miracles will happen in these last days. Believers will see the glory of God as never before. Keep your mind and heart open.

We have to see another truth. Today's church is not as glorious as the Early Church. We lag behind in many things compared to them.

Through one sermon of Peter, 3000 were saved, but we hardly see such mass conversions today. Does it mean we should stop preaching salvation?

All those who came to Jerusalem were healed (Ac.5:15-16), but we don't see 100% healing in our meetings today. Does it mean we should stop praying for healing?

Similarly, the Church has not yet entered into the full depth of tongues. Does it mean we should doubt today's tongues?

Even if there is such a manifestation and outpouring of the Spirit, not all tongues can be understood by everyone. The languages you spoke to God as mysteries will remain mysteries.

QUESTION 3

Some good men of God who don't speak in tongues shine powerfully in the ministry. What is your answer for it?

ANSWER

I never said tongues are the only means to spiritual power. We know the Old Testament saints were very powerful though they never spoke in tongues. God gives tongues as an added bonus along with all the blessings of the Old Testament saints, but some New Testament saints are satisfied with the Old Testament level of anointing. Some are content with the anointing of John the Baptist. Some are marching on towards the anointing level of the apostles. It all depends upon their level of desire, expectation and faith.

God has given you many means of grace to shine in your spiritual life. When you are faithful in holy walk, total commitment, faithfulness toward the revealed truth, consistent devotional life, deep desire for the Word and your calling, you receive the blessings and anointing accordingly.

Speaking in tongues is not a substitute for all these means of grace. When everything else is in right proportion and you excel in tongues, you reach the fullness of His anointing. Even in this fullness you have to grow progressively. Image a dam with eight sluice-gates. If four of them are open, will not some water flow out? Yet what an amazing difference it would make if all the gates were open!

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QUESTION4

Why do we see so many shortcomings in the lives of tongue-talkers?

ANSWER

Just see my previous answer again. Some opened the channel of tongues but failed to open other channels. Some tongue-talkers don't spend adequate time in the Word and in prayer, neither are they careful in their holy walk. So what they try to build up by speaking in tongues, they break down again.

Even the only channel they opened is not fully open, that means, even the tongue-talkers don't spend enough time speaking in tongues. The man who has 1000 Dollars and doesn't use them is poorer than he who has 100 Dollars and makes full use of them. I have seen most tongue-talkers don't use that ability fully.

Some speak few words in tongues and stop, thinking they have reached the summit. Others shout in tongues in a meeting, but never practice it in their private life. I have seen some people repeating the same syllable for years. Many are considered tongue-talkers, but have never gone to any level worth mentioning. This is the reason we many times don't see any difference between those who speak in tongues and those who don't.

The reason the tongue-talkers stagnate is they don't desire and expect higher experiences. I always say, when a man is saved, baptized in water and filled with the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues, he has just completed the Kindergartenlevel. Some, however, call it 'Full-Gospel' and are fully satisfied with it. Another reason could be that leaders don't teach and train the young believers the blessings of tongues and the ways to develop them. We rarely see such teachings in our churches, so the spirit man of many tongue-talkers is weak and withered. How can you expect them to be victorious?

The passion level is the power level. Some had passion for the gifts and are satisfied with that. No wonder, the fruit of the Spirit doesn't blossom in their life. Others think the fruit of the Spirit is more than enough and forfeit the manifestation of the gifts. Yet the chapters 12-14 of 1^{st} Corinthians teach us the same lesson of a Spirit-filled life. The fruit and the gifts are two branches of the same tree and two tributaries of the same river. You cannot specialize in one at the cost of the other. Here lies the reason for the failure of tongue-talkers.

By the way, who called you to research all the failures and shortcomings of a tongue-talker? What would be your answer if someone asks you why the lives of some of the saved ones are worse than the lives of unbelievers and gentiles? Where does the problem lie? Is it with the experience of salvation or with the lives of the saved ones? The answer to both questions would be the same.

QUESTION 5: Do you mean to say tonguetalking is the only evidence of the Spiritanointing?

70 be answered next month...

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BECAUSE OF JESUS IN CHRIST

I will be with you and bless you... I will perform the oath which I swore to Abraham your father... I will make your descendants multiply as the stars of heaven... In your seed, all the nations of the earth shall be blessed BECAUSE Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws...

FOR MY SERVANT ABRAHAM'S SAKE ...

For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous (Ge.26:3-5,24; Ro.5:19).

The "BECAUSE-truth" is one of the great revelations you must know to destroy all your guilt and self-efforts. Isaac was blessed because Abraham obeyed God. This one truth can transform your life. Abraham obeyed, and Isaac enjoyed the fruit of it. All of Isaac's promises were nothing but a repetition of what God promised to Abraham. It's not Isaac's merit that brought his blessings. It's Abraham's merit, credited to Isaac's account.

This is one of the most important Bible truths we must learn. Abraham's obedience is the reason for all the blessings of his entire generation which includes you.

BECAUSE of Jesus: This pictures the great redemptive plan of God for His new creations. Through Jesus' righteous act, we all received abundance of grace and abundance of righteousness (Ro.5:12-21).

If Abraham's obedience could bless Isaac, how much more the obedience of our Lord Jesus Christ would bring abundance of blessings upon you? In fact, He is the only one who could fully obey and fulfill all righteousness (Mt.3:15). He left the heavenly bliss to bring blessings upon you. He walked in total obedience to the Father, even to the point of death, so that you may be blessed (Phil2:8).

BECAUSE of Jonathan: There is a beautiful illustration to picture this. When David became king, he showed kindness to lame Mephibosheth for the sake of his friend Jonathan and said, "Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan your father's sake, and will restore to you all the land of Saul your grandfather; and you shall eat bread at my table continually" (2.Sa.9:7). Mephibosheth was melted by his kindness and cried, "What is your servant, that you should look upon such a dead dog as I?" In spite of his unworthiness, he ate bread with king David at his table all through his life.

Beloved, your Father God has invited you to His banqueting table to relish His delicacies. All His kindness flows to you. In Christ, everything Adam lost is restored to you. You may not feel deserving but it's done for the sake of the Son of David who wellpleased His heart. Stop underestimating yourself! Accept His gracious invitation, appreciate His kindness and enjoy His royal blessings.

All the mighty miracle workers you admire are not shining because of their goodness or godliness. It's their simple trust in God's righteousness that releases God's blessings and power. Peter attributed the secret of his power to the Name of Jesus, not to his own godliness (Ac.3:12,16). Be humble to accept that you are blessed only because of Jesus.

Thank You, Lord, You have come to fulfill all righteousness. I have become the righteousness of God in You. I have received abundance and the gift of righteousness. I will reign in life because I am in Christ.

Mt.3:15; Ro.5:17; 2.Co.5:21

TESTIMONIES

My name is **Mohit** I have been a student of school of the Holy Spirit. I am very thankful to God who gave me an opportunity for being a part of this three month school. These Ten days of STC was the most precious days of my life. I received lots of new revelations by the great man of God Ezekiah Francis. I always doubted that I am the chosen one by God. Also I wondered if God had any plan for my life. I am a believer for past 8 years but I didn't receive any prophecy about my life from any man of God. They always prophesy for my friends but never to me. I was disappointed but in this STC from the first message of Prophet Ezekiah till the last one, I felt like every message was for me and now I have no doubt that I am chosen one of God. Thanks to our dear Lord. I am thankful to the Prophet of God. God Bless Him.

I thank all the Berachah staff for the truth which I heard in this STC. Every message has touched me deeply. So many times I felt that someone had touched me. First day in prayer I felt somebody touched my ear with two fingers. I asked my neighbor if he touched my ear, but he refused. On the third day I felt touch on my ribs, again I asked my neighbor but he gave the same reply. Then I had very special experience when Prophet Ezekiah Francis was praying. I felt something like flies came out from my right hand. Whatever I was thinking in my heart I would receive the answer from the pulpit. I received healing for my bleeding tooth. I have perfect faith that whatever problems I have been facing they all will vanish away when I will go back from this place. **ADITYA DISUZA**

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"Before one can walk as Christ walked, and talk as He talked, he must first begin to think as Christ thought.."

"Before we get into A. A. Allen's story, I would like to make a few comments that I feel will help your perspective in this story. I have great compassion for A. A. Allen. Sure, he made mistakes. Every General did, and every future General will. But when you consider Allen's disastrous background, you must take note of how he triumphed over it all to affect the world for Jesus. Very few people, if any, have overcome what Allen did to successfully answer the call of God. His story should speak to every generation. Consider this as you read" writes Roberts Liardon in God's Generals.

Asa Alonzo Allen was born on a stormy Easter morning, March 27, 1911 to Asa and Leona, who were drunkards and raised the children in total poverty. His father was a talented



AAALLEN The Miracle Man

musician, Young Allen caught hold of those talents and the little joy came from his sister who treated him as prince. By the time he was twenty-one years old, Allen was a nervous wreck. It was said that he couldn't even hold a cup of coffee without spilling it. His chest burned, he was racked with a deep hacking cough, and his memory was slipping. In short, by the early prime of his life, Asa Alonzo Allen was dying.

In June of 1934, things changed when he passed by a country Methodist church with his rough friend. The lights were blazing, and inside there was a celebration of loud singing, clapping, and dancing. Allen was amazed, these people were enjoying themselves! For the first time in his life, conviction seized him. All through that night and the next day, he struggled with God and his heart. He longed for the joy and peace he had seen on the faces of those people at the country church. So he went back to the service the following night and as soon as the call for salvation was given, his hand shot straight up! He fell to his knees and asked Jesus to be the Lord of his life. From that moment on, there was a new A. A. Allen. He was a new creation.

He became one of the most sensational revivalists of modern time. Some consider him to have been one of the most important revivalists to emerge during the Voice of Healing revival. Allen became one of the first evangelists to call poverty a spirit and believed in God's ability to perform miracles financially.

In Missouri, in his first miracle service, An old coal miner who was totally blind as a result of a mine explosion years earlier, in response to an altar call, came forward for healing. Allen shocked by his faith, they prayed and said, "There is unbelief in this room. I can feel it!" And with that a man got up and stomped out the door. God answered their prayer. When the prayer was finished, the blind man could name the color of Allen's tie and point to objects around the room!



- O Hectic preparations are on for the forthcoming Gujarat state Assembly General Elections. The two-phase polls are scheduled to be held on the 9th and 14th of December. The votes will be counted on December 18th along with those polled in the Himachal Pradesh Assembly General Election. In both the states, the BJP and the Congress are the main contenders for power.
- Θ In the Congress, the schedule for electing the party's new president has been announced. The party will notify the polls on the 1st December, receive nominations from December 4th and polls will be held on December 16th, if there is any competition. Counting will take place on the 19th, a day after the announcement of the Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh Assembly elections. Media reports suggest that Mr Rahul Gandhi will be elevated as the new President of the party.
- Θ India jumps 30 places in the "Ease of Doing Business Index," compiled by the World Bank. It ranks 100 as against 130 last year. However, in the category relating to starting a new industry, there is a slippage to 156th place from 155 last year, as the World Bank says many permits need to be secured as compared to the global trends.
- Θ In the recent ASEAN and the East Asia Summits held in the Philippines capital Manila, it was resolved to work together to root out terrorism and to choke the funding channels of terror outfits by checking money laundering. Economic cooperation among the partner nations has been highlighted in the events.
- Θ In a story of grit and glory, the Indian Women Hockey team won a nail-biting win in the Asia Cup final held in Japan in November. It edged past the Chinese team 5-4 via shoot-out and lifted the cup. The team also qualified for next year's World Cup events as the continental champion. This is Indian team's second Asia Cup win since 2004.
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Rev. Benita Francis

Oh yes, although He was God's Word made flesh, your Lord Jesus rooted and grounded His life very deeply in God's Sustaining Word Soil - and you can do the same!

Shame-removing Soil

Your Lord Jesus knew no shame, no guilt and no condemnation. Like any righteous man, He was bold as a lion (Pr.28:1). He was totally secure in His Heavenly Father's love, appreciation and commission. As He obediently fulfilled all righteousness by following the commandments written in God's law, He experienced the exuberant Presence of God's Holy Spirit upon Him. He even heard the Voice of the Father praising Him from heaven! Wow!!! Who would not be strong with such powerful backup!

16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Йiт.

17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Mt.3:16-17)

Have you had such experiences? Have you felt the Presence of the Spirit of God descending and covering you like with a warm, comfortable blanket? Have you heard your Heavenly Father speaking loving, encouraging words to you? If not, you need to take time to concentrate on God's Word until it becomes His personal love letter to you.

Your God wants to do to you exactly the same He did to His only begotten Son Jesus! At that time, Jesus was God's only begotten, His only Son, but now no more! Through His life on earth, His death and His

resurrection, Jesus became the Firstborn among many brethren, and you are one of them (Ro.8:29). Your God wants to root and ground you in His shameremoving, fear-destroying soil, in His Word-soil!

15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

17 and if children, then heirs - heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together (Ro.8:15-17)

Unless you receive a personal revelation of the love God has for you and of how proud He is to call you His child, you will struggle throughout your Christian life with identity issues, suffering attacks of jealousy, comparison and competition in your mind.

How does God's Spirit bear witness with your spirit that you are a child of God? Well, remember the very beginning of creation. God's Spirit was hovering over the waters, ready to act, ready to create, waiting only for one thing: The Word of God!

Isn't it interesting that our Lord Jesus heard these affirming words at the very beginning of His ministry, before confronting and conquering satan in fasting and prayer in the wilderness, and before doing any public ministry? Oh yes, we do need our Daddy's affirmation to withstand in the fiery furnace of trials and temptations!

Isn't it also interesting that our Lord Jesus heard these affirming words right after He had done an important step of obedience? Fully aware that He was the Son of God, the Word made flesh, Jesus insisted in fulfilling all righteousness by getting baptized in the river Jordan. Remember, His relative John the Baptist even tried to prevent Jesus from being baptized! Knowing that Jesus was that prophesied "Mightier One" who would baptize people with the Holy Spirit and fire, John asked to be baptized by Jesus (Mt.3:14)!

What a test! What a temptation! Fully ready to go into the waters of baptism, Jesus was suddenly offered the position of power, the position of baptizing the famous baptizer. Any insecure person would have jumped for joy and immediately accepted such an ego-boosting opportunity. Praise God, your Lord Jesus didn't fall into this trap. Obedience to God's revealed will made Him to hear God's praising, affirming words from heaven.

How could He stand strong in this temptation? Only for one reason: Because He knew God's Word, God's plan, God's requirements, and God's LOVE. He could recline John the Baptist's offer with the words, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness" (Mt.3:15). He could humble Himself to be baptized only for one reason: He knew His life was before-ordained by God for the salvation of humanity. Therefore, He could boldly say, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God" (Heb.10:7-9).

Do you think He would have had fear? I think so. Taking on Himself the sins of all humanity, of every human who ever lived and who will ever be born, was not an easy task. The Bible tells us that His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground during His agonizing prayer for strength to accomplish God's will (Lk.22:43). Definitely He would have felt fear, but He would have remembered King David of old who said:

4 I sought the LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

5 They looked to Him and were radiant, and their faces were not ashamed (Ps.34:4-5)

Your Lord Jesus knew He would never be ashamed as long as He kept His heart bent on seeking the LORD. Remember, He even said that He could of Himself do nothing (Jn.5:30)? He clearly knew that seeking God's will in God's Word was the sure path to victory and to a life that never had to be ashamed.

4 You have commanded us to keep Your precepts diligently.

5 Oh, that my ways were directed to keep Your statutes!

6 Then I would not be ashamed, when I look into all Your commandments (Ps.119:4-6)

Hallelujah! But do you think that our Lord Jesus could have faced even a temptation to feel ashamed? We never see a trace of it in His life, although there could be a good reason for Him to feel shame. In His hometown, everybody knew that His mother Mary had conceived Him before marriage, while being engaged to Joseph (Mt.1:18-20). According to the Law, she should have been stoned to death. Praise God, He sent His angel to instruct Joseph to accept her as his wife and to protect the child, Jesus (Mt.2:13).

Do you think people would have been silent about it? Don't you think they would have teased and tortured the child Jesus for His "background"? Knowing satan and knowing human nature, I am sure our Lord Jesus would have had His share of accusations and shameinducing situations. How did He overcome? See here:

46 Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions.

47 And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers (Lk.2:46-47)

Rebuked by His mother, He calmly replied, "Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" (Lk.2:49). Such clear and strong roots in the Father's



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love and purpose for your life come only from looking into the Word of God.

Remember, those who look to Him - the Word of God, that is, the written Word and the Word made flesh - are radiant, and their faces are not ashamed (Ps.34:5)!

Root and ground your life in this shame-removing soil of God's Word and fulfill your life mission with boldness and honor.

Sin-nature-removing Soil

If you plant yourself into the right soil, your struggles with sin are over. Full stop.

Wow. How can I give such a big promise so boldly? Of course, like always, only on the basis of GOD'S never-changing, ever-challenging WORD. See how beautifully the Apostle Peter explains the process to you:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you <u>in the</u> <u>knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord</u> (2.Pe.1:2)

By knowing - really KNOWING - God the Father and your Lord Jesus, and by consciously living in that knowledge, grace and peace will be multiplied to you. Hallelujah! That means, if you focus on getting to know God and His Son Jesus better and better, you automatically produce a calm, gracious and graceful atmosphere of peace. In such a peaceful atmosphere, that horrible push toward sin loses its power and attraction. Wow! "Nice", you say, "but HOW do I create such an atmosphere?"

Have you ever noticed that the more you strive to stop sinning, the more sin gains power over your mind and thereby over your entire being? Of course it does, but don't worry. God's way to help you stop sinning and to live a holy life is very different from what any human could imagine. See the words of God's mighty Apostle Paul:

14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace (Ro.6:14)

Sin shall not have dominion over you!!! Glory!!! Note that again, grace is mentioned in God's wise Word in connection to victory over sin. Why? It is because His grace gives you the power to overcome sin and satan.

Probably you tried to overcome sin by keeping the law, or by making your own law. Doing that is as useless as dieting to lose weight. You make your "law", you plan when and how much you allow yourself to eat, you stick to it for a while - and then you lose control, run to the fridge and eat everything you can find in it. That is what our Lord Jesus told His disciples in Gethsemane:

41 Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak (Mt.26:41)

Before His death and resurrection, this was the only recipe our Lord Jesus could give us: Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation; but praise God, He didn't stay in that grave! He rose from the dead, He overcame sin and satan, sickness and death, and He has given to YOU both His victory secret and His victory position! Hallelujah!

Think about it. How come none of His disciples had a relapse, or succumbed to any sin, after the day of Pentecost? Of course, Judas Ischariot is the exemption, since he was the prophesied son of perdition, as Jesus Himself said (Jn.17:12). The reason for the disciples' victory is that grace and truth had been revealed through Jesus Christ (Jn.1:17)!

Now you may ask, "Why then did the disciples stumble even while being with Jesus Himself?"

The reason is that they could not yet have the tremendous privilege YOU can have NOW, the privilege of becoming the dwelling place of God, the temple of the Holy Ghost, or as Jesus Himself says,

23 ... If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him (Jn. 14:23)

The Father loves you! You become the home of Father and Son! And even more:

31 If you abide in My Word, you are My disciples indeed.

32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (Jn.8:31-32)

How many different promises of total victory over sin and freedom from bondage! Did you notice they all center around KNOWING God, KNOWING His Word, KNOWING Jesus who IS THE TRUTH, THE Living Word (Jn.14:6; 1:1)?

Only if you study God's Word, you can find out the greatest mystery of all ages, and you can know that now its reality belongs to YOU:

27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory (Col.1:27)

Christ, the Living Word of God, IN YOU! The WORD that created the entire universe! Will that WORD IN you not be able to defeat the sin outside of

you!?!

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth (Jn.1:14)

The Word became flesh... we behold His glory... full of grace and truth... and today, not only dwelling AMONG us, but dwelling IN us!!! If you KNOW it, if you PONDER it, you will WONDER where the temptation has gone!

Please take the time to KNOW your God and His ways by pondering the following Scriptures:

1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?

2 Certainly not! <u>How shall we who died to sin live</u> any longer in it?

3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

6 knowing this, that <u>our old man was crucified with</u> <u>Him</u>, that <u>the body of sin might be done away with</u>, that <u>we should no longer be slaves of sin</u>.

7 For he who has died has been freed from sin.

8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him.

10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

11 Likewise you also, <u>reckon yourselves to be dead</u> <u>indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus</u> our Lord.

12 Therefore <u>do not let sin reign</u> in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but <u>present yourselves to</u> <u>God as being alive from the dead, and your</u> members as instruments of righteousness to God.

14 <u>For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you</u> <u>are not under law but under grace</u>.

15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!

16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?

17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet <u>you obeyed from the heart that form of</u> <u>doctrine</u> to which you were delivered.

Powerful! By obedience to a doctrine, to the WORD of GOD, you are no longer a slave of sin! Paul says, because they OBEYED from the HEART the teachings of God's Word, they were delivered from the cruel slavery to sin. Hallelujah!

And still more:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,

3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust (2.Pe.1:2-4)

By KNOWING HIM, you have already received everything you could ever need for this life and for the life to come!

By KNOWING HIM, you have received tremendous promises!

By KNOWING HIM, by knowing and accepting His promises, you take part in His divine nature!

By KNOWING HIM, you have escaped the corruption and destruction of this world!

WOW!!! The more you root and ground your life in God's Word soil, the more you conform your life to God's standards and methods, the more you radiate His holy, divine nature into this sin-sickened world. His Word, His exceedingly great and precious promises, already made you a partaker of His divine nature, destroying the old sin-nature. Truly, sin shall not have dominion over you!

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