

OUR FAITH MUST BE STRONGER THAN OUR FEARS

Pastor L Bester, 18 April 2021

1 Kings 19:2-3 (NIV)

So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, "May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them." Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there,

- When Elijah receives a death threat, he gave in to the voice of Jezebel. He was afraid and ran away
- We as children of God must watch out for the voice of Jezebel. Everywhere there is negativity from the tv, radio, even fellow Christians and our own voice. Your doctor that tells you you have cancer, debt collectors that want to collect from you or your spouse tells you they want a divorce, depression that tells you it is going to take your life, lust that wants to control you, fear telling you you not going to make it, etc
- Elijah was a powerful man, man of God but in that moment of tiredness he was affected by that voice of evil, intimidation, that want to put him in a place of negativity
- You can identify that voice in your own life and also even in the last year how that voice – the devil, speaks to our thoughts, through things and situations - how we adhere to that voice. There is a warning – resist the devil
- The enemy is coming full out for us, that voice is speaking loud in your life. It wants you to yield down and to destroy you

What can you do when you are hit with negativity/situations

1. Call on the Name of Jesus
 - There is a name higher than any other name – Jesus Christ
 - At the Name of Jesus, every knee must bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord
 - We can plead and declare the Name of Jesus over our lives
 - It is a simple act. There is power in the Name of Jesus. The Bible say declare Jesus: Over you body, over my health, spirit, mind, my children, finances, household, yourself, etc
 - When you declare the Name of Jesus there is a power and a strength that begins to rise and to work in your life and with your life
2. Plead the blood of Jesus Christ
 - Jesus paid with a high price, His blood. Until today that blood speaks on behalf of you
 - With great boldness plead and decree the blood of Jesus over your life. It produces safety and security as the blood of Jesus protects you
3. Work the Word of the Lord
 - Read, speak and apply the Word
 - Our faith needs to grow. Everything we need to do do it with faith
 - It is difficult but work the Word in your life
 - God wants us to increase in our faith and become stronger
 - Just as a person that got muscles, he gym every day to get to that place. We need to exercise our faith
 - How does our faith grow – hearing and speaking the Word of God and applying it in your life

Romans 10:17 (NIV)

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

- The more you hear the Word of God, the more your faith is going to grow
- It is important to read and study our Bibles. Read what it says. Write down what stands out for you in the Bible. Pray and speak it over your life
- Why? The word of faith must become stronger than the voice of the devil. How? By reading the Word of God, you become impacted by the Word, you start to speak it
- What voice is hearing? You hearing the Word of God. From your own mouth, in your thoughts, ears. The Word of God stirs up your faith. This is working the Word
- We mustn't live by what we see but by faith
- Live what God is saying about you. When you start to declare, see, think and speak what God is saying, then faith begins to rise in your life
- When you are sick, you will be healed. When you are in trouble, it will not last. Even when things are not good, you know God is coming through
- That faith in you will overshadow and break down the work of the enemy
- Also applying the Word. Take risks
- How we feel and think sometimes contradict what the Word of God says
- Praise God in every situation – good and bad. Forgive when someone betrays you. Love the world when it hates you
- It takes sometimes risks applying the Word of God. Going against the opposite direction
- It takes guts to surrender your life and boldness to put God first
- This is what it means to apply the Word is to work the Word in your life
- When you work the Word in your life, things begin to happen. You will see a power beginning to work in you that will cause you the whole time to rise

4. Praise God

- God dwells in the praises of people
 - When you praise God and uplift God, the angels are at work pushing back the enemy
 - The enemy flees as he can't stay in the presence of the Lord
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- These points are shared to resist the voice of the enemy. We need to be alert and be careful. Be careful of the words coming out from your mouth, the thoughts you think of negativity
 - We need to spend more time in the Word and be excited about God, life, your future and what God is going to do
 - Rise up and resist the enemy
 - Read Job. He had everything and then lost everything
 - In this scripture, his friend says to him

Job 8:5 (NIV)

But if you will seek God earnestly and plead with the Almighty, if you are pure and upright, even now he will rouse himself on your behalf and restore you to your prosperous state. Your beginnings will seem humble, so prosperous will your future be.

- Surely God will come through for you even things look dim
- We have great hope – Jesus Christ
- The same Spirit that rose Jesus, is in us
- Work the Word and praise God
- We going to push forward