
The Writer's Inkhorn

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Continuing Reflections on the Word for Your Personal Growth in Christ

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The Power to Conquer, the Faith to Proceed, and the Strength to Prevail Until the Blessing Manifests



Here is a word that was stirring in my spirit a while back and one that continues to speak to me in powerful ways. I believe it is singularly one of the most important words God has ever given me to deliver to His people. So I am excited about the opportunity to share it with you in this issue of the Inkhorn. It is a fitting *next* word to contemplate following the last *Inkhorn* issue regarding taking a leap of faith in this leap year, as you continue to pursue destiny. Let's begin.

For students of the Bible, it is a fairly well-known fact that the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. However, not everyone knows that that 40-year journey was **their punishment: one year for each day** that they spied out the land of Canaan, yet did not believe that they had the power to conquer the people and take possession of the land that God had promised them. They either did not realize, failed to believe, or refused to remember that their God had the power to help them to do whatever it was He was commanding them to do. Where are you?

Here is the crux of the matter: the **power to conquer** was immediately given to the Israelites at the time that the **commandment to conquer** had been given. Did you get that? Have you ever thought about it that way? God revealed to me that when God gives His word, the **power to accomplish** that thing **is in the word** that He gives at the instant that word proceeds from His mouth.

Consider this evidence from elsewhere in Scripture. When God said let there be light, what happened? Exactly! There *was* light. Did you catch that? **Light** was created in the moment that God said "let there be." The world and the worlds

were created, *in the moment*, by the word of God as He *spoke* those things into existence.

Whether that word is something for *you* to do or something for *God* to do on your behalf, there is no time lapse since the **power** is already **in the word** as it leaves the mouth of God. Hear these words through the prophet, Isaiah:

*For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returns not thither, but waters the earth, and makes it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: **So shall my word be that goes forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.*** (Isaiah 55:10-11)

The **power** to accomplish and to conquer is **already in the word** that God speaks as He speaks it. Remember when the Amalekites had plundered Ziggag? They burned the city after taking all of the women and children and the things that belonged to David and his men. When David enquired of the Lord whether he should pursue, God told him to pursue, that he would overtake them, and that without fail, he would recover everything. The **power to conquer was in the word as God spoke it** out of his mouth. Although David was a mighty warrior, it was not in his military might alone, but in *God's word*. **David conquered** because *God said* he could. And he did.

People can *say* a lot of things that they do not always have the power to make happen, so they leave you with a bunch of empty promises. But *God's word* **does not** and **cannot** go out without power. It **shall** accomplish all that God pleases, because the power is already in the word simply because it *is* God's word.

If God has given a promise of blessing, the power **to bless** is already in the blessing He **has commanded**. Remember Balak, when he sent messengers to Balaam to try to get him to curse the Israelites? He tried several times and it would not happen. Balaam finally said to Balak, as recorded in Numbers 23:19 and 20:

*God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good? Behold, I have received commandment to bless: and he hath blessed; and I **cannot** reverse it.*

If and when God **commands** blessing in your life, the **power to bless** is in the word as He speaks it, and no devil, nor enemy of any kind can reverse it. It is **God** that has blessed you and your house, and it cannot be reversed.

*God's Word
is living and powerful
and sharper than
any two-edged sword!*

Fast forward to the New Testament, there was an occasion when a man who was sick, was brought to Jesus by his friends that Jesus might heal him. When they arrived at the location where Jesus was, they found that the house was already overcrowded and there was no way they were going to get their friend in through that crowd. Not to be outdone, they made their way onto the roof of the house, with their friend, proceeded to tear part of the roof off of the house, and then let the man down through the roof into Jesus' midst so that the man might be healed. And the man *was* healed because the power of the Lord was present to heal him. Put pay close attention to what happened after Jesus saw their faith as evidenced in their determination and their actions on behalf of the sick man. Jesus **said**, as recorded in Luke 5:24b-25:

*I **said** unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go into thine house. **And immediately** he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.*

Jesus **said** ... **and immediately**. As the word went forth from Jesus' mouth, *immediately* the man was healed. Too many times people come into our churches and are in the midst of the very presence of God, but they leave with the same conditions with which they came, because they have not learned how to access the power of the Lord that is present in the moment, when the **word** of the Lord goes out among them. And sometimes it happens to us, too. The **power of the Lord is present** in the **word of the Lord** to heal, to fix situations, or otherwise meet the needs of those who will hear and receive and move in faith. All we ever really need is for God to **speak** the needed word or command the needed blessing into our circumstances, whatever that may be. The psalmist says this:

*He **sent his word**, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.*
(Psalm 107:20)

The **power to heal** was *in the word* that God sent. If God sends His word for the express purpose of healing you, when that word reaches you, you **will** be healed, because the **power to heal** is in **the word, immediately**, as God speaks it. The man at the Pool of Bethesda was healed when Jesus **spoke** the word of healing into his situation. The man at the Gate Beautiful was healed instantly when the Apostles **spoke the word of healing** to him.

I keep reiterating this point because this is a powerful word that God does not want you to miss, especially since some of this power has been given **to us** by Jesus Himself. The Apostle Luke wrote Jesus' words in Luke 10:19:

*Behold, **I give unto you power** to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and **nothing** shall by any means hurt you.*

And Matthew 10:1 says,

*And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, **he gave them power** against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.*

Here is the thing to remember, though. Paul tells us in II Corinthians 4:7:

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

It was not **our** power to begin with but it has been freely **shared with us** by Jesus, to do the work He has called us to do. If you serve God, you have the God who controls the universe on your side, so you **have** power to conquer.

BUT, do you have the **faith to proceed**? What has God given you to do that you have not yet begun to act upon? Let me ask that question again: What has God given you to do that you have not yet begun to act upon? What word has He spoken to you and what promises has He made to you that require you to move ahead in faith? Paul says to Timothy in II Timothy 1:7:

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Remember the Israelites? They **saw** the evidence of the promise. A couple of the spies came back with a huge bunch of grapes, being carried by **two** people on a staff. And they brought of the figs and of the pomegranates, **yet** they did not have the faith to proceed into the land of promise. They stated out of their **own** mouths:

*We came unto the land where you sent us, and **surely** it flows with milk and honey; and **this is** the fruit of it; nevertheless... (Numbers 13:27)*

Nevertheless **what**? They were **fearful**. They did not have the faith to proceed. **They** acted as if they believed that **the giants** in the land were more powerful than **the God** Who had brought

them through the Red Sea, drowning Pharaoh and the entire army that was in hot pursuit of them!

How are **YOU** acting? Let us not just stop with the Israelites. What **about** us? How many times have **you** had the evidence in **your** hands, and **still** were expressing doubt? With a check in the mail, and two contracts on your desk, and a building waiting for you to just move into, how many times have **we** seen God's miraculous power go to work on our behalf again and again? Yet, as soon as another giant arises in our lives, we begin to express doubt that God can bring us through **this** time. Fear and doubt are first cousins, and I am pretty sure they are **no kin** to **faith**.

Doubt can hinder the plan of God as He intended it to unfold in your life. Sure, God can work around you **or** in spite of you, but He does not always **choose** to do so. Your doubt, disbelief, or **failure to act** can hinder the work of God from going forth **through** you and **around** you. Both Matthew and Mark note that **Jesus Himself** could not do many mighty works in His home town, except lay His hands on a few sick folk and heal them, because of **the unbelief of the people** (Matthew 13:57-58; Mark 6:5-6). And **your** doubt can also hinder someone else's deliverance.

The Lord told me to tell one of my cousins years ago that when God has a work for you to do, and you don't do it, He does not always put someone else in your place to do it, although He *can*. The fact that He can just give the work to someone else is the kind of thinking that too easily lets *us* off the hook. But God said, sometimes your part of the work in the kingdom **just goes undone**. That is a much more sobering thought, is it not? I don't know about you, but I don't want my work in the kingdom to be left undone. God does not do *anything* without purpose, so what He has assigned to **me** is intentional and strategic for something else that must take place in the earth realm. So I have learned that I must fight **in** faith, I must fight the good fight **of** faith, and I must **have** the **faith to proceed** forward to destiny. We *must* first cast down **fear** to proceed in **FAITH**.

Or, like Israel, you can choose to wander around in the wilderness of **your** life, so-to-speak, for the next 40 years, barely making it from paycheck to paycheck, living from pillar to post, scraping by and hardly having enough for the bare necessities in life. If you are finding yourself in

this predicament, then ask God if there is some unbelief in your life – some lack of faith somewhere. Mind you, I am not trying to wrongly accuse anyone, like Job’s friends wrongly accused him, since I do not **know** what conversations are going on between God and Satan about you *or* me. I am just saying, be quick to examine **yourself**, *first*, in the off chance that the fault lies in you, rather than just being part of the circumstances God has ordained for your journey. Paul said to examine ourselves to see whether we be in the faith (II Corinthians 13:5).

You *have* the **power to conquer**. God, in Christ, has given you some of His power. Open **your** mouth and begin to **declare** some things in **your** life, in your circumstances, according to the word of God. From now on, affirm daily:

TODAY, I WILL STAND IN MY POWER.

You need to *exercise* the **faith to proceed**. And when you know all is right between you and God, then you need the **strength to prevail until the blessing manifests**. Ask God to give you that kind of strength.

Moses told the Israelites,

Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. (Deut. 31:6)

God told Joshua,

Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. (Joshua 1:9)

In order to *prevail*, you sometimes need to *travail* in prayer and fasting, until the blessing or deliverance comes. **Hannah** travailed in prayer until God answered her request and blessed her with a son. **Daniel** travailed in prayer until the answer to his prayer got through to him. The angel told Daniel that God heard his prayer the first day he prayed, and sent the answer, but the

angel was delayed **21 days**, fighting to get the answer through to him (Daniel 10:12-13).

Just because you have not yet *heard* from God, it does not mean that He has not *heard* your prayer. The enemy of your soul seeks to discourage you by speaking negatively to you about your God and/or your relationship to your God. But do not forget the Satan is the great accuser. It is his *job* to make you doubt that God will answer you. When that happens, just remember what the angel said to Daniel. Whether your answer is yes, no, or not yet, God always answers us in some way. So, do what David did, and encourage *yourself* in the Lord your God. Then tell the devil to “Shut up!” And press on.

Jacob held on in wrestling with the angel, and would not let go until the breaking of day. The angel saw that he could not prevail so he knocked Jacob’s thigh out of joint. The angel asked Jacob his name, and told him that his name would no longer be called Jacob, but **Israel**:

*...for as a prince hast thou **power with God and with men**, and hast prevailed.*
(Genesis 32:28b)

Wow! What an amazing thing for the angel to say of him. Even with all of the faults and deceit and shenanigans of his previous life, Jacob’s **future** was not tied to, nor hindered by his past life. He had power with God and with men. He prevailed until he received his blessing. Your future is also not hindered by your past, although the enemy would like for you to *think* so. God’s promises are sure, and you have that same power to which Jacob had access – **strength to prevail** until the blessing manifests.

Can you travail in prayer, in fasting, in dedication to the work of God until you begin to see some changes, or are you prone to fainting along the way when things are not going as you want them to go? Remember, you do not *know* what battles your angels are fighting, to get **your** answer through to **you**, so you have to just hang on in there in faith. God has given you the power to conquer, read God word so that you can garner the faith to proceed, then ask God for the strength to prevail until your blessing manifests.

Your Teacher and Sister,
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