

PRAY, PLAN, PRAY THEN PROCEED

By Rev. Stephen Llewellyn

During an election year, the public is bombarded with signs, posters, bumper stickers, T-shirts, people knocking at your door, and advertisements on the radio, television, and every media outlet. All this is done to expose the character of the person who is attempting to gain your confidence. Basically they believe that by making the attributes of these people as visible as possible they can persuade the public to one side or the other.

As important as our political process is, it pales in comparison to the importance of the spiritual conflict we are in. Our choice is clear and everyone who is around us ought to know.

God has called us, everyone one of us, to be a public spokesperson for the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords and for His kingdom with the goal of winning our neighbor, friends, other people, and even nations. We should be definitive in our purpose of calling people out of darkness into the Kingdom of Light. It should be our purpose to point others in the direction of the Kingdom of God.

“Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give them.

Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

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 1:6-9

We can be strong and be confident or very courageous because we know that we have the peace of God with us. Because we are representatives of Jesus, we can say that we are Jesus’ strength in the earth today! We are commanded by God to **be strong!** The only way we can be strong is to **focus** on what the Word of God says. Remember the Word of God is **truth**. Meaning it is true and will **continue to be true** no matter what the circumstances look like.

Matthew 28:18-20 states: ***“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.”***

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.”

Jesus said, ‘All power is mine. I am with you wherever thou goest. My peace is with you wherever thou goest.’ In the above verses, insert your own name to replace the word **you**. We have peace that travels with us. We spread peace wherever we go. Ever wonder why people want to be around you? They feel the peace (maybe they don’t realize it) and want to be where there is peace. **Since** you have Jesus’ peace that is traveling with you, they are drawn to His peace that is within you.

Acts 1:8 states: ***“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and you shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”***

Acts 10:38 records the following: ***“How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.”***

This same power that was given to Jesus by God is the **same power** that we have

because Jesus in turn gave it to us! Jesus knew we would need this God-given power. In Matthew 28:18-20 when Jesus commanded us or commissioned us, Jesus knew we would need power to do what God wanted us to do. We are unable to do anything in ourselves; however, through the name and the power that is in the name of Jesus, we are able to allow mighty acts to flow through us.

“And unto the angel of the church of Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou were cold or hot.” – Revelation 3:14-15

If you are cold or lukewarm, there will not be a spark. God wants us to be **on fire** for Him. He has commanded us to be strong and to be confident. He has given us all power – the same power Jesus had. We have the same Holy Spirit that anointed Jesus. We have the tools we need. He has told us what our mind set should be. Jesus said He would be with us unto the ends of the earth so we are not to be dismayed or afraid! So the next time you hear the devil whisper, “You can’t withstand the storm.” Let the warrior of God rise up in you and reply, “**I am the storm.**”