

SIT, WALK, STAND

The secret from deliverance from sin is not TO DO something, but to rest on what HE has already done.

We sit forever with Christ so we can walk continuously before men.

Paul has learns to sit; perfect rest in God. AS A RESULT, his walking is not based on his efforts but on God's mighty inward working.

Sitting and walking....but every Christian must learn TO STAND.

Satan was conquered.
But there is still a conflict.

Paul calls it our "wrestling" with wicked spirits.

The wiles of the devil

Stand against = hold your ground

This is not the command to invade a foreign country; but it's a command to occupy an already conquered land by occupying.
HOLD YOUR GROUND

All the weapons are DEFENSIVE

Sword is defensive and offensive

Jesus warfare was offensive

Ours is defensive

We do not need to fight to obtain it...

We only need to hold it against all challengers.

The enemy's defeat is already a fact.

Satan is the one attacking in efforts to dislodge us from the sphere of victory.

Romans 8:37... we are more than conquerors

WE DO NOT FIGHT FOR VICTORY BUT FROM IT

WE DO NOT FIGHT TO WIN BUT BECAUSE IN CHRIST WE HAVE

ALREADY WON

Overcomers are those who rest in the victory already given to them by their God.

WHEN YOU FIGHT TO GET THE VICTORY, YOU HAVE LOST THE BATTLE AT THE ONSET

WHAT AN ATTACK OF SATAN MAY LOOK LIKE

He assaults you in your home or in your business.

Difficulties mount up.

Misunderstandings arise.

Situations you cannot deal with or escape threaten to overwhelm you.

You pray.

You fast.

You struggle.

You resist for days.

NOTHING HAPPENS... Why?

You are trying to fight into victory and in doing so are relinquishing to the enemy the very ground that is yours.

FOR YOU... VICTORY IS A DISTANT THING, SOMEWHERE AHEAD OF YOU, AND YOU CANNOT REACH IT.

ONLY THOSE WHO SIT ACAN STAND.

OUR POWER FOR STANDING, AS IN WALKING, LIES IN OUR HAVING FIRST BEEN MADE TO SIT TOGETHER WITH CHRIST.

SATAN'S PRIMARY OBJECT IS NOT TO GET US TO SIN...but to make it easy for us to do so by getting us off the ground of perfect triumph...

THE VICTORY IS THE LORD'S, THEREFORE IT IS OURS!

HOW SATAN ATTACKS...

Through the head or the heart... HE ASSAULTS OUR REST IN CHRIST OR OUR WALK IN THE SPIRIT...

For every point of attack we have the armor of God...

Defensive armor

Helmet

Breastplate

Belt

Shoes

OVERALL the shield of faith..... FAITH IN CHRIST

- Faith that we have access
- Faith we are saved
- Faith he indwells us

WE DON'T TRY TO GAIN THE VICTORY, BUT SIMPLY TO MAINTAIN IT... The enemy will be routed...

This is the source of true praise...

Not that he will win

Not that he will empower us to win

BUT THAT HE HAS ALREADY WON

HAS DEFEAT BEEN YOUR EXPERIENCE.... ?

If man could have conquered Satan he would have done it before God came in the flesh..... DON'T TRY, MAN COULD NOT AND NEITHER CAN YOU...

BUT GOD DID COME!!!

Are you hoping one day that you will be strong enough to win?
THEN I PRAY FOR YOU AS PAUL DID FOR THE EPHESIANS...

God open you eyes anew to see yourself seated with Him who has himself been made to sit “far above all rule, and authority, and power, and dominion, and every name that is named.
(1:21)

THE DIFFICULTIES AROUND YOU MAY NOT ALTER...

The lion may roar as loudly as ever
But you no longer hope to overcome... HE HAS ALREADY
OVERCOME...

IN JESUS YOU ARE THE VICTOR IN THE FIELD, not the warrior
trying to win...

MORE THAN JUST THE PERSONAL SIDE OF OUR WARFARE...

This all has to do with the work GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO US...

The utterance of the mystery of the gospel...

Ephesians 3:1-13

**NOW WE COME INTO THE SWORD OF THE WORD AND
PRAYER...**

Ephesians 6:17-20

Yes... Jesus is seated far above all rule, and authority...

Yes... it is true that all things have been put “in subjection under his feet” (1:21-22)

IT IS IN LIGHT OF THIS THAT WE ARE TO GIVE “THANKS ALWAYS FOR ALL THINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST” (5:20)

.... YET ON THE OTHER HAND... we must admit that we do not see all things subject to Him...

Paul says... there are hosts of wicked spirits in heavenly places...

Evil powers behind world rulers

Occupying territory that rightly BELONGS TO CHRIST...

SO, THIS IS A DEFENSIVE WARFARE...

HOWEVER, IN AREAS WHERE THE ENEMY IS HOLDING SOME HOSTAGE... It becomes OFFENSIVE...

Matthew 18:18-20

Verily I say unto you, what things soever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and what things soever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them... For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am...

John 16:23-24, 26

In that day ye shall ask me no question. Verily, verily, I say unto you, if ye shall ask anything of the Father, he will give it you in my name. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be made full.... IN that day ye shall ask IN MY NAME...

Salvation comes in the name of Jesus.... And NO ONE CAN BE EFFECTIVELY USED OF GOD WITHOUT KNOWING THE AUTHORITY OF THAT NAME...

Not just the name of the God in the flesh...

But Paul tells us that that this same JESUS is now invested with THE TITLE, THE AUTHORITY given by God AFTER HE BECAME OBEDIENT TO DEATH...

The authority in that name is the outcome of his sufferings...

It is the name of his exaltation...

It is the name of his glory...

It is the name of his power...

It is the name of his honor...

It is the name of his dominion...

IT IS THE NAME WHICH IS ABOVE EVERY NAME...

WE GATHER IN THAT NAME...

WE ASK OF GOD IN THAT NAME...

Jesus told his disciples... John 6:24, 26.... Hitherto ye have asked nothing..... in that day ye shall ask.

THERE IS AN AUTHORITY THAT IS IN HIS NAME.

Authority they did not have... but will receive and will need to use it... THE AUTHORITY THAT GOES WITH HIS NAME...

The name of Jesus certainly establishes the identity of the Jewish carpenter in Nazareth... BUT IT GOES DEEPER THAN THAT... IT REPRESENTS NOW THE POWER AND DOMINION GIVEN TO HIM BY GOD!

A POWER AND DOMINION WHICH EVERY KNEE IN HEAVEN AND EARTH AND BENEATH HEAVEN AND EARTH MUST BOW...

Even the Jewish leaders recognized that there could be this kind of significance in a mere name...

Acts 4:7.... By what power, or in what name, have ye done this?" ...

LOOK AT THE RECURRING EXPRESSION... IN THE NAME

Look at the way the apostles put that name to use...

We are to use that name...

John 14

John 15

John 16.... In his last discourse he says three times “ASK IN MY NAME”...

HE HAS PLACED THAT AUTHORITY IN OUR HANDS FOR US TO USE

NOT ONLY IT IS HIS BUT IT IS “Given among men” ... Acts 4:12...
IF WE NOT KNOW THIS AND WALK IN IT... WE WILL SUFFER GREAT LOSS...

THE POWER OF HIS NAME OPERATES IN THREE DIRECTIONS...

Acts 4:10-12 – IN OUR PREACHING... the Kingdom of God It is effective for salvation among men... through the remission of sins... for their cleansing, justification, and sanctification unto God...

Luke 24:47, Acts 10:43, 1 Corinthians 6:11

IN OUR WARFARE...it is mighty against Satanic powers, to bind and bring them into subjection...

THREE PLACES IN THE BOOK OF ACTS TO ILLUSTRATE...

Acts 3:6... Peter said... in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk

Acts 16:18... Paul... turned and said to the spirit, I charge thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And it came out that very hour.

Acts 19:13, 15... Certain... exorcists, took upon them to name over them that had the evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, I adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth... And the evil spirit answered and said unto them, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?

PETER:

- He does not bend his knee and ask for the mind of the Lord... it is known...
- He just says “walk” ...
- He uses the name as if it were his to use, not something far away in heaven

PAUL:

- He senses that the satanic activity has gone far enough
- He does not pause to pray
- His walk is a true walk with God; so as a custodian of the name he takes action as though the power were in himself... He commands that spirit to come out and the spirit flees IN THAT VERY HOUR

THIS EXAMPLES GOD’S COMMITAL OF HIMSELF TO HIS SERVANTS TO ACT THROUGH THEM AS THEY TAKE ACTION “IN THE NAME”.

THEY ARE AUTHORIZED TO USE THIS NAME...

IT IS ONLY BEING SEATED WITH CHRIST THAT HIS NAME AND HIS AUTHORITY CAN BE ENTRUSTED TO US HERE...

IF WE CANNOT DO SOMETHING IN HIS NAME THEN WHAT WE DO LACKS SPIRITUAL IMPACT...

You cannot work this up at a time of crisis... IT IS THE FRUIT OF SITTING WITH CHRIST... IT IS SOMETHING WE MUST HAVE ALREADY IF IT IS TO BE AVAILABLE IN TIME OF NEED...

PAUL: Jesus I know, and Paul I know.”

- Evil powers recognize Jesus...
- They also recognize Paul... those who are in union with Jesus...

IF I AM TO GIVE MY NAME TO SOMEONE ELSE TO USE I HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHAT HE DOES WITH IT...

FOUR FEATURES OF A WORK TO WHICH GOD CAN FULLY COMMIT HIMSELF

1. A REVELATION OF THE ETERNAL PURPOSE OF GOD...if I am going to work on a building, a co-laborer, I must know if it is an airplane hangar, a school, a garage or a palace... I MUST SEE THE PLAN OR I CANNOT BE AN INTELLIGENT WORKER... The end: the preeminence of Jesus Christ and bringing in sons among whom HE WILL STAND PREEMINENT.... The eyes of God are turning toward his coming Kingdom
2. God can fully commit himself to THE DIVINE PURPOSE CONCEIVED BY GOD... if we plan work and then ask God to

bless it, we need not expect God to commit himself to it...
It must be conceived by God, not by me... THE SON CAN
DO NOTHING OF HIMSELF...

How many times in the Book of Acts we find the Spirit
prohibiting...

- Chapter 16 – Paul and those with him were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to speak a word in Asia
- 16:7 – The Spirit of Jesus suffered them not...
- WE have to learn the lesson of not doing, of keeping quiet for him...
- We have to learn that if God does not move, we dare not move...
- IN THIS ALONE HE CAN SAFELY SEND US FORTH TO WORK FOR HIM
- The abiding principle of all of God's work is... "IN THE BEGINNING GOD... "

3. Thirdly... all work, to be effective... must depend for its continuance upon the power of God alone.

- What is power?... we use it loosely.
- There is spiritual power and there is natural power...
- Natural power: What we can do without the help of God
- If we are operating in our NATURAL POWER... how will we pray? How will we lean into and depend on the Lord?

- THE TROUBLE WITH US ALL IS THERE IS SO MUCH WE CAN DO WITHOUT HELP OR RELYING ON GOD
- We have to get to the point where we dare not speak or function except in a conscious and continual dependence on Him
- Stephen said Moses was mighty in word and works... But Moses said I am not eloquent... I am slow of speech and slow of tongue...
- God never asks us to do anything we can do...
- He asks us to live a life which we can never live and do a work which we can never do... by his grace, his life, and his power through us...

4. ALL WORK MUST BE TO HIS GLORY...

- We get nothing out of it for ourselves...

IN OUR ASKING... it is effective toward God... he tells us twice...
Whatsoever ye shall ask...
If ye shall ask anything in my name...

