The Christian Global Harvest Where You Get To Share Your Story

Welcome to a newsletter that has you in mind!



"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. (6) So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me." Hebrews 13:5-6.

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I pray that you are well

and in the best of health.

We are continuing with the subject: Unfailing Strength.

Covetousness is a strong desire for material things and is strongly condemned in the Word of God. Jesus declared in Mark 7:21-23 that it defiles a man, and that we should be aware of it. "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, (22) Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: (23) All these evil things come from within, and defile the man."

Paul said in Romans 7:18 that, "For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not." In other words, I have the intention and urge to do what is right, but no power to carry it out. This is why we need the Spirit of God. This is why He sent the Holy Spirit, so we won't be sleeping in this bed and that bed, and falling for any and everything like we don't have any strength at all. If you lose your strength, you lose your contentment!

Jesus further declares in Luke 12:15, "And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." Get rid of the junk and the clutter! It's a result of not being content. Who are you trying to impress? Wait on the Lord, I say! Again I say, wait on the Lord! He'll meet your needs and keep you in peace.

The Apostle Paul taught that covetousness will keep one out of the kingdom of God, according to 1 Corinthians 6:9-10. "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, (10) Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extor-

tioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God." If we are doing these things, we won't make it! I don't care how good it feels!

But listen to Verse 11: "And such were (past tense) some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." Unfailing strength! You don't have to be that way again!

Covetousness should not even be named among us, according to Ephesians 5:3. "But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints." Covetousness is nothing less than idolatry. Ephesians 5:5 declares, "For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God." Isn't that something?

Let's read it someplace else. I call your attention to **Colos**sians 3:5-6. "Mortify (to make dead, to put to death, destroy the strength of) therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil cravings, and covetousness, which is idolatry: (6) For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience."

The word *covet* isn't a bad word. It's the act outside of desiring the things of the Lord. Paul declared in **1 Corinthians 12:31, "But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way."**

When we return next month, we'll look at the solution to covetousness and unfailing strength!

Sincerely,

Bishop, Dr. Willie J. Moore

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- Resources
- Editorial



Evangelist Diana Black-Tucker

Founder and President: Vineyard Bible Ministry - San Diego, California

Faith Towards God

Greetings, Everyone!

This month we will look at the third essential teaching that was written in the book of Hebrews 6:1-2 (*NKJV*).

"Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment."

When I was twelve years old, I got baptized. I wore a white gown, my hair was pulled into a cap, and the pastor prayed over me. He pinched my nose and told me to hold my breath. He then submerged me in a pool of cool water. The pastor told me that I was a new creature in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17) and that my sins were forgiven now that I had accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior. The writer of this particular scripture mentions the teaching of ceremonial washing, which was so prominent in the lives of the priests and people of Israel. So, when I got baptized, I understood why I did it, but did I truly understand the reason behind it? Before I answer the question, let's break down baptism in Hebrew and Greek.

Baptism in Hebrew is called "*mikveh*." According to Jewish Virtual Library (2023), *mikveh*, literally translated as a "collection" or "gathering," is a pool or bath of clear water (pictured left) in which immersion renders ritually clean a person who has become



ritually unclean. According to **Leviticus 15**, the priests had to be ritually clean (*tahor*) to serve at the Tabernacle, and Israelites who had become ritually unclean (*tamay*) had to restore their situation with time and bathing their whole body in fresh, ritually clean (*tahor*) water. It never washed away sins. It only made the individual ritually pure, not actually pure. Baptism in Greek is called "*baptizō*," which is to plunge, dip or immerse something in the water. Paul stated in **Romans 6:3-4** that baptism symbolizes a union with Christ in his death, burial, and resurrection. Paul also said this in **Colossians**

2:12 (*ESV*), "Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead." Paul explains perfectly that submerging underwater is like going down into the grave. Coming out of the water is like being raised with Christ to walk with him.

The writer wants us to remember that baptism is not just death and resurrection with Christ but purification and cleansing from sins. Ananias told Saul in Acts 22:16 (*ESV*), "And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name."

There is also another form of baptism. The baptism of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8). In Acts 2:14-41, Peter spoke to Judea's men and all who lived in Jerusalem. He began preaching the gospel and telling them about the promise of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38 (*ESV*) records, "And Peter said to them, Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

After reading these scriptures about baptism, I realized it is more than just being immersed in water. It's a relationship with Christ and other believers. Paul said to the Corinthian church in 1 Corinthians 12:13 (*ESV*), "For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and all were made to drink of one Spirit."

Next month, I will be discussing laying on of hands.

Blessings,

Evangelist Diana Black-Tucker Founder and President Vineyard Bible Ministry Podcast: https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/diana-tuckervbm

You can listen to the podcast on your favorite podcast platform. Thank you for your support!



Arkeshia Brown

USN, San Diego, CA

"Oh, send out Your light and Your truth! Let them lead me; Let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your tabernacle. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; And on the harp I will praise You, O God, my God." Psalm 43:3-4 (NKJV)

Encouragement in the Time of Trouble

Sometimes you just must encourage yourself when you are amid trouble: 1) Hope in our Heavenly Father to do the impossible, 2) Hope in our Heavenly Father to bring about a radical shift in our situations, and 3) Hope in the middle of discouragement.

We must continue to hope in God and praise Him. Go to Him, rely on Him because He is the truth, the light, and the way.

God has the power to break generational curses. Just because you/we have family members who were not faithful to God does not mean you have to follow those footsteps. Step into your own relationship with God, feel the love of our Savior, and breathe in the mighty breath that is the Holy Spirit. Let generational curses end with you!

Have you ever longed for something so badly that you would do anything to get to it? There is a comparison in **Psalm 42** between a deer who longs for water and our soul that thirsts for God. Just like that deer that is looking and desiring water to drink, as believers, we are to be desiring and running to God. Running to Him to grow in intimacy with Him. To be connected to Him. Because when we are connected to Him and reach Him and quench our thirst of Him, we can bring more people who are longing and thirsting after a spiritual encounter with our Heavenly Father.

There is something about being filled with the Holy Spirit that satisfies everything you need. Where you do not have to worry about how you will get from here to there because God will position you right where He needs you to be. Keep thirsting and longing after God because when He fills you, there is a constant flow, an overflow of abundance that will fill you beyond comprehension.

If you are not trying to quench your thirst or trying to connect with God on a physical, emotional, and spiritual level, you will remain empty. You will become so empty that your only "nourishment" will be your tears. You will not be able to prosper, move in the way God wants you to because you have not connected with Him. You have not chased after Him; you have not sought after Him. It could become so bad that your enemies will begin to mock you. Your enemies will have you second-guessing who God truly is. You better thirst after Him before it's too late. So, when the enemies come to you, you can say, "My God will never leave me. He will never forsake me. My God will do exceedingly and abundantly in all I ask of Him." Even though I am going through hard times, facings struggle after struggle and pain after pain right now, I serve a BUT GOD! A BUT GOD that can change my situation to bring glorification to His name. A BUT GOD that can make the enemy my footstool! Never give up on what God can and will do in your life no matter the season you are in.

Now is the time to think back on all the things God has done for you. Think of His goodness and grace when He provided for you, when He delivered you, when He freed you, when He did what you asked Him to do. These thoughts can carry you through your victory. They can carry you through when you feel like you have nothing left. When you are feeling discouraged, think of His goodness, His mercy, and all the blessings He has provided for you and rejoice knowing that the same God, who did it before will do it again. Do not let the enemy steal your joy and praise. Encourage yourself every day. Hope in God, trust in Him, and most importantly praise Him.

SELF-DECLARATION TIME

Look yourself in the mirror and say, "Self, I will not walk in defeat. I will not give into the enemies' tactics. I will not let negative thoughts stop me from pushing, running, and thirsting after my Heavenly Father. I will trust and hope in all that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit has for me. If for a moment, I fall into temptation of discouragement, I will reflect on all God has done for me and from the pits of my belly, I will give Him an ANYHOW PRAISE. I will praise Him all the days of my life because I know He has something great in store for me."

Be encouraged and walk in your victory!

Hope is to expectantly wait for God to act!

Arkeshia Brown

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Bishop Dr. Willie J. Moore - Presiding Prelate

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Mission Statement

- To encourage and strengthen our readers through the publication of biblical exhortations, dynamic testimonies of God's miraculous power, and the sharing of resources to edify the body of Christ.
- ${
 m To}$ provide a venue for ministries to share what they are doing to enhance the Kingdom of God.
- ${
 m To}$ make these resources available electronically to God's people globally.

Parting Words from The Publisher

"For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. (5) Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" (1 John 5:4-5).

What a powerful declaration! Again, we have nothing to fear in this world. We simply need to be born of God and maintain our faith in Him. But it doesn't stop there. We must believe that Jesus is the Son of God by adhering to, trusting in, and relying on that fact! And in doing so, we will have the victory! Now go ahead and give Him a shout of praise!

Thank God for another exciting newsletter! I'm so thankful for those whom God has placed in my life to make this newsletter a viable tool to reach others around the world and share the Good News of salvation with them.

Evangelist Black-Tucker reveals the meaning of baptism, both in water and in the Spirit of God. The importance of baptism cannot be overlooked. It's a vital and integral part of our salvation. Moreover, it's imperative that we be filled with the Holy Spirit! Sister Arkeshia Brown reveals what is needed to be and to stay encourage in the time of trouble. And we will have troubles, no matter how saved we are believed to be. But through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will prevail. So grab your garment of praise for that spirit of heaviness and rehearse the goodness of God! Great articles and a must read!

Please keep in mind that we are striving to make a difference in the lives of others. Again, we can only do so much without your help. We don't have any gimmicks or anything to offer you in exchange for your support, other than the love of God and our sincere gratitude. Please take the time to make a monetary contribution to our mission work. Visit our website at: www. voices-of-victory.com. There you will find a PayPal link to make a contribution. You can also use our Cash App: \$vovictory. Make this your season to seed into this ministry. Thank you so very much!

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