

God's Power in Your Life

How often we have the desire to do good or change what we dislike in our lives and lack the power to accomplish what we desire.

This study is to help us tap into and use the unlimited power of our Creator in our day to day lives.

Part of the vision given to the apostle John of God's Throne in Heaven revealed God as omnipotent, meaning God has all power, and He reigns supreme.

Revelation 19:1,6 [NIV] *"After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting: 'Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,' ... "Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns."*

The sovereignty and omnipotence of God must go together, one cannot exist without the other.

To reign over His Creation, God must have power, and to reign sovereignly, He must have all power.

This we know of God by divine revelation, but once known, it is recognised to be in accord with all reasoning and logic.

For God to be God He must be:-

Self-existent. No-one made God, He is the Creator, not a part of creation. God had no beginning like His creation.

Infinite. Limitless; there is no bounds to what God can do. It is impossible for the limited mind that we have been given by God to grasp the idea of one being unlimited.

The logical deduction from these facts must be that God has limitless power.

God revealed this fact to King David.

Psalms 62:11 [Amplified Bible] *"God has spoken once, thrice have I heard this, **that power belongs to God.**"*

King David recognised that God is not just powerful but He is the **only** source of power.

God possesses what no creature can: an incomprehensible plenitude, full measure of power, a potency that is absolute.

God has delegated power to His Creation, but being self-sufficient [self-existent] does **not** relinquish anything when He does this.

God has never surrendered the least iota of His Power, He gives but does not give away in the sense of needing to be replenished or renewed.

God remains what He has always been, the Lord God omnipotent.

When we read the scriptures that show the approach to life of the men of God and compare this with the outlook of modern men, we cannot but notice the radical disparity.

Today we suffer from a secularised mentality.

The great men of the Bible saw God, modern man sees the laws of nature.

God ruled their world, ours today is ruled by the laws of nature and as a result we are always once removed from the presence of God.

What are then these laws of nature that have displaced God in the mind of modern man?

The word law is used in two ways in society today.

“*The law*” is the external rule enforced by those in authority to govern the society in which we live.

The word “*law*” is also erroneously used to denote the uniform way in which things act in the universe.

What we really see in God’s Creation (nature so called) is simply the path that God’s Power and Wisdom take through His Creation.

Correctly stated these are phenomena, not laws of nature.

We have come to call this phenomenon laws of nature by analogy with the arbitrary laws of society.

Science observes how the Power of God operates, discovers a regular pattern somewhere and calls it a “*law*”.

This uniformity of God’s activities in His Creation enables the scientist to predict the course of natural phenomena.

It is the trustworthiness of God’s behaviour in His World that is the foundation of all scientific truth.

It is only upon the faithfulness of God in His Creation that a scientist can have faith in what he does.

Mankind in general do not wish to look beyond what is recognised by the physical senses because it would force them to recognise an all powerful ruling being [God] who would demand their worship and submissions.

Romans 1:18-25 [NIV] *“The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles. Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator – who is forever praised. Amen.”*

True religion goes beyond God’s Creation to the Creator Himself.

True religion is not only concerned with the “*footprints of God’s Power*” in His Creation but seeks a relationship with the one who makes these footprints.

True religion is interested primarily in the One who is the source of all things, the Master of every phenomenon of power in this created universe.

Omnipotence is **not** a name given to the sum of all power but an attribute of a personal God whom we Christians believe to be the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Also the Father of all of us Christians who believe in Jesus Christ as our Saviour and the Door to the Power of God in our lives and eventually the means of our receiving the gift of eternal life.

Since God has at His command all the power in the universe, all that He does is done without effort.

God's self-sufficiency makes it unnecessary for Him to look outside of Himself for a renewal of strength.

God has all the power required to do all that He wills to do lies in undiminished fullness in His own infinite being.

Jeremiah 32:17 [NIV] *"Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. **Nothing is too hard for you.**"*

I read recently that our sun produces more energy in one second than has been used by man in the history of the world, and that it can continue to emit this power for another thirty billion years.

That is what I call power, yet it is but a minute part of God's Created Universe.

Unlimited power of God is available to all of us.

Ephesians 1:19-20 [Living Bible] *"I pray that you will begin to **understand how incredibly great His Power is to help those who believe Him.** It is that same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated Him in the place of honour at God's Right Hand in Heaven."*

All of us experience "power shortages" in our lives.

Often in life we feel victims of circumstances and lack the power to change anything.

It may be we feel victimised by other people, or our health.

We seem to take one step forward only to be forced to take two steps backwards.

God tells us He wants to share His Power in our lives.

Two areas of our lives, among many others, that God wants to empower us.

The power to get started

Romans 7:18 [Phillips Translation] *"I often find that I have the will to do good, but not the power!"*

Romans 7:18 [Living Bible] *"No matter which way I turn I can't make myself do right, I want to but I can't."*

Romans 7:18 [King James] *"... how to perform that which is good, I find not."*

We all have things in our life which we would like to do, know it is God's will that we do them, but fail to get started.

We all have things about ourselves which we know God would like us to change and we wish we could but lack the power to get started towards changing them, we lack motivation.

Often we find ourselves paralysed by procrastination, “*some day I will ! !*”

In life we will at times be faced with tasks to do when we are ill prepared to perform them.

We don't have the ability, intelligence, talent, energy, background, money or power to accomplish the undertaking.

What do we do?

Here is the Good News!

God can give us the power to perform

Philippians 2:13 [Phillips Translation] “*For it is God who is at work within you, giving you the will and the power to achieve His Purpose.*”

1 Corinthians 1:4-7 [Living Bible] “*I can never stop thanking God for all the wonderful gifts He has given you, now that you are Christ's, He has enriched your whole life. He has helped you speak out for Him and has given you full understanding of the truth. What I told you Christ could do for you has happened! Now you have every grace and blessing every spiritual gift and **power for doing His Will are yours** during this time of waiting for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

2 Corinthians 3:5 [Living Bible] “*... not because we think we can do anything of lasting value by ourselves. **Our only power and success comes from God.***”

2 Corinthians 4:7 [Living Bible] “*... but this precious treasure, this light and power that now shine within us, is held in a perishable container, that is, in our weak bodies. **Everyone can see that the glorious power within must be from God and is not our own.***”

God is always there wanting to help us get started to make the changes in our lives that both of us want.

Many people are great starters, but it is another thing to keep on keeping on.

To continue to do the good we have started even when we don't feel like it.

Psalms 6:2-3 [Good News Bible] “*I am worn out, O Lord ..., give me strength; I am completely exhausted, and my whole being is deeply troubled.*”

For some of us this is a “life form”.

Solomon had this mid-life, mid-task problem.

Ecclesiastes 2:11 [Living Bible] “*I looked at everything I had tried, it was all so useless, a chasing of the wind, and there was nothing really worthwhile anywhere.*”

We may feel this way about our job, our children, our health, our service in the community and Church Fellowship, we know we should keep on trying but we feel like giving up.

The good news is that God can give us the power to keep on going.

Isaiah 40:28-31 [Living Bible] “*Don't you yet understand? Don't you know by now that the everlasting God, the Creator of the farthest parts of the earth, **never grows faint or weary?** ... **He gives power to the tired and worn out, and strength to the weak.** Even the youths shall be exhausted, and the young men will all give up. But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.*”

When we reach the end of our own ability that is when God's Power takes over and the task is finished.

How then do we tap in to this unlimited Power of God?

God's Power in our lives is **not** automatic, there are certain things we have to do to receive this power, certain conditions that God lays down in His Word.

Admit our lack of power and the need of God in our life

Our problem is that we think we are omnipotent, *"I can handle anything, I can do anything."*

If we don't believe this about ourselves look at our schedule!

Trying to burn the candle at both ends means we are **not** as bright as we think we are.

Mid-life crisis is just waking up to our limitations, realising we are **not** God and we will **not** accomplish all we set out in life to do.

We cannot control everything in our lives, we are human, we have weaknesses, we are getting older and our hairline may be receding.

"When God made man He wanted to be fair. Some He gave brains and some He gave hair."

"If you are bald in the front you are a thinker, if you are bald in the back you are a great lover, if you are bald all over you just think you are a great lover."

What do we do when we realise we are weak?

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 [Phillips Translation] *"So tremendous however were the revelations that God gave me that in order to prevent me becoming absurdly conceited, I was given a physical handicap ... three times I begged the Lord for it to leave me, but His reply has been, My Grace is enough for you. For where there is weakness, My Power is shown the more completely. Therefore, I have cheerfully made up my mind to be proud of my weaknesses, because they mean a deeper experience of the Power of Christ. I can even enjoy weaknesses, suffering, privations, persecutions and difficulties for Christ's sake. For my very weakness makes me strong in Him."*

As long as we try to be self-sufficient we short circuit God's Power in our lives.

The self-made man needs to admit his inadequacies, then he can receive power, until then he will just face *"burn-out"*.

Believe in faith

The key to physical power of God in our lives is faith.

Mark 9:23 [Living Bible] *"Anything is possible if you have faith."*

Mark 9:29 [Living Bible] *"Because of your faith it will happen."*

What are we expecting God to do in our life?

What are we expecting God to do through our life?

How we answer these two questions will determine the size of our faith.

Because God has unlimited power we should **not** limit Him by our expectations of His working with that power in our life!

We limit God by our unbelief.

God makes available atomic bomb power and we continue to live fire cracker lives.

Matthew 13:57-58 [NIV] *“And they took offence at him. But Jesus said to them, Only in his hometown and in his own house is a prophet without honour. And he did not do many miracles there because of their lack of faith.”*

Where there is no faith God does not use His Power.

Speak in faith

2 Corinthians 4:11, 13 [Living Bible] *“We live under constant danger in our lives because we serve the Lord, but this gives us constant opportunities to show forth the Power of Jesus Christ within our dying bodies ... we boldly say what we believe just as the psalm writer did when he said, ‘I believe and therefore I speak’.”*

We must verbalise our faith.

We must announce what God is going to do through our lives.

A goal is a statement of faith.

We say *“I believe that God can do this or that in my life by a certain time.”*

The size of our goal is determined by the size of the God we believe in.

Our goals in life show the measure of faith we have in God.

James 3:4-5, 9 [Amplified Bible] *“Look at the ships, though they are so great and are driven by rough winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the impulse of the helmsman determines, even so the tongue is a little member, and it can boast of great things. See how much wood or how a great forest a tiny spark can set ablaze!” ... “...with it [the tongue] we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men who were made in God’s likeness.”*

The tongue is the rudder of our life to be used for good or for evil.

The way we use our tongues effects the course of our life.

Proverbs 18:21 [Amplified Bible] *“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they who indulge it shall eat the fruit of it.”*

What are we saying about the various aspects of our life, our marriage, our health, our children, our work, our ministry (the work we do to further God’s Kingdom here on earth).

We may be expecting a miracle in our lives by God’s intervention with power but not speaking it.

We believe in God’s intervention in our minds but negating it with our speech.

“I believe God is going to save my marriage, but my marriage is the ‘pits’.”

“I’m praying that my children will follow me into God’s Church, but my children are hopeless.”

“I’m praying God will heal me but I’m never going to get well.”

“I believe God can help me break these bad habits I have but that is just the way I am.”

We are short circuiting God’s Power in our lives by our mouth.

We act in faith

Most people miss this vital part of receiving God’s Power in their lives.

We must step out in faith as if we already have the Power of God in our lives to perform the task we believe He wants us to do in spite of all our weaknesses and inadequacies.

We have to step out in faith before the power is released by God as if the power had already been given.

God wants us to take action before we feel any changes take place in our lives.

We have to act as if we have the power before we feel we have the power, to receive the power.

That is what God calls living by faith.

If we step out in faith and act in faith, God sees our faith and then releases the power in our lives.

Immaturity is living by our feelings.

Maturity is living by our commitments.

So many people miss God’s blessing on their lives because of feelings.

“I would really like to do this or that for God but I don’t feel I can do it.”

So we don’t even try and as a result we don’t have the power.

This is what the writer of Hebrews meant.

Hebrews 11:6 [NIV] *“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.”*

Many of us are waiting on God to perform a miracle in our lives, but in reality God is waiting on us.

God is waiting for us to:-

Admit our need.

Believe in faith.

Speak in faith.

Step out in faith.

Then He will release His unlimited Power in our lives.