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Overcoming The Fear Of Death

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Many of us over the years have experienced a certain amount of fear in our lives, but we must remember that God never gives fear. Fear is an awful thing, a thing which we try to sometimes hide from others, but **GOD NEVER GIVES FEAR**.

2 Tim 1:7 "For God did not give us a spirit of timidity (of cowardice, of craven and cringing and fawning fear), but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of calm and well-balanced mind and discipline and self-control." AMP

The following words were taken from the book "Echoes From Glory" written by Margaret Mendenhall, given to her during her prayer time.

"Fear and intimidation is never from me. I never designed my children to experience lack of confidence in any area. Any fear or insecurity that they feel comes from an outside foreign source, which is imposing its influence upon them, it is because it is not in them but is from the outside. Many of my children have had this wicked influence in their lives for as long as they can remember, so they think it is just part of their personality.

An individual's personality is that particular essence of life that I breathed into them at the moment of their conception. The breath that flowed into them at that time never included one tiny grain of fear. It is my intention that when a child is born, he will take the personality I have endowed him with and expand it to include the destiny I have planned for him.

Satan, on the other hand, wants to pervert every personality to include fear and intimidation, so a person's thinking will be so twisted they will be directed away from the course I have planned for them.

Don't accept fear and insecurity as a way of life. If you cry out to me, I will see that you are delivered from all the hindrances that fear brings, and you will then develop into the personality you were destined to become."

God has designed us without fear, fear was added.

Matthew 25 tells of the man who was given only one talent, but he determined that because he knew the man, what his character was like who had given it, he would not try to increase the talent, however, when the master came, the man told him that he was "afraid" and had buried it in the ground. He thought that this one talent wasn't worth anything; this man had a fear of failure.

There are four basic fears: 1) failure 2) rejection; which will keep you from having close relationships the way they are designed to be 3) people; meaning a man pleaser instead of God pleaser and 4) death

Gal 1:10 "Now am I trying to win the favor of men, or of God? Do I seek to please men? If I were still seeking popularity with men, I should not be a bond servant of Christ (the Messiah)." AMP

These different fears will cause us not to be what God wants us to be. There will be problems though fear. The major fear that we all have is the "fear of death".

Heb 2:15 "And also that He might deliver and completely set free all those who through the [haunting] fear of death were held in bondage throughout the whole course of their lives." AMP

Looking around at the things happening in the world today will cause the fear of death. There is death and destruction everywhere, whether it is by nature; floods and storms of various sorts or by terrorist activities or people just being destructive. Paul teaches that we will be living in perilous times.

The fear of death brings bondage; this type of fear comes from real or imaginary danger that threatens to put our lives in jeopardy. Death can mean your life being snuffed out or miseries. The wages of sin is death.

Rom 8:6 "Now the mind of the flesh [which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit] is death [death that comprises all the miseries arising from sin, both here and hereafter]. But the mind of the [Holy] Spirit is life and [soul] peace [both now and forever]." AMP

Rom 6:23 "For the wages which sin pays is death, but the [bountiful] free gift of God is eternal life through (in union with) Jesus Christ our Lord." AMP

There are two ways to live in this earth; blessing and cursing. The curse was released when Adam and Eve sinned in the beginning; this is where death came in. God made Adam and Eve with power, love and a sound mind, but when they chose to sin, that changed; they were given another spirit which did not come from God. We said they were afraid. Fear came on the scene. If we could see with spiritual eyes, we would see both light and darkness, blessing and cursing, two kingdoms,

we have a choice as to which kingdom we live in.

Adam and Eve were living in the kingdom of blessing, blessings were all around them. Blessing is all the abundance that God has for us.

John 10:10 "The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows)." AMP

The thief is the devil and comes for only one thing, to steal, kill and destroy. He loosed the curse in the earth; the prevailing atmosphere of the world of darkness is fear. So many of the things that we as believers are exposed to on a daily basis are from the darkness of the devil. We should be very careful as to what we are watching, listening to and sharing with others. The devil is out to destroy our lives. We have a choice to make, will we continue in darkness or live in the light as God intended for us to? What will we choose?

Jesus came to give an enjoyable and abundant life to us, giving us the power to overcome any fear that the enemy would try to put on us. It pays to choose light, receiving the benefits that God has for us. Jesus came for a specific purpose to paralyze the enemy.

Heb 2:14 "Since, therefore, [these His] children share in flesh and blood [in the physical nature of human beings], He [Himself] in a similar manner partook of the same [nature], that by [going through] death He might bring to nought and make of no effect him who had the power of death--that is, the devil--" AMP

The devil is the father of lies, he uses his mouth, which is not paralyzed to try and control people. If we believe his lies to be the truth, listening to what he whispers in our ear, then he is controlling us. We cannot out muscle or out power the devil or out talk him, you have to out truth the devil. When he comes with lies and he speaks loud, when we believe his lies, he creates fear and when fear is there, he has you. You have to know the truth.

A story was told of the enemy speaking of death, causing fear to rise up and how the fear continued to torment for a period of time, but the lie was recognized and the word of God in Psalm 91 was put in motion, the fear left immediately bringing peace in the situation.

The devil has a plan for each of us, his whole purpose is to steal, kill and destroy, he will try to trip us up, deceive us and cause us to believe his lies. We have to talk to him; we must know what to say.

Why do bad things happen to good people? Many say that "God is in control and He allows it" is a lie. This is a lie that the devil has sold to the Christian

community, blaming God for all the bad that happens and most of us have believed his lie. The devil is trying to kill God's people.

"God is in control" is true ONLY if we allow Him to be. God is not trying to teach us lessons by causing miseries to come on us as a result of our sins. The lesson we should be learning is how to recognize and deal with the devil and learn God's purpose and plan for each of us, how to walk in obedience to His word, growing everyday in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, causing the kingdom of God to expand. God has all the weapons that we need to fight the devil with, but first we need to know the truth.

Eph 6:12 "For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despotisms, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere." AMP

If there is any darkness around, then Satan can rule there. He is the ruler of the darkness of this world. The following scriptures are truth, the devil is the ruler of this world, BUT God has transferred us into His kingdom. Satan has no power over us, unless we allow it.

1 John 5:19 "We know [positively] that we are of God, and the whole world [around us] is under the power of the evil one." AMP

Col 1:13 "The Father] has delivered and drawn us to Himself out of the control and the dominion of darkness and has transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love," AMP

Matt 16:19 "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind (declare to be improper and unlawful) on earth must be what is already bound in heaven; and whatever you loose (declare lawful) on earth must be what is already loosed in heaven." AMP

Jesus has given us the power, given us the keys of the kingdom. Binding and loosing the enemy.

Matt 16:18 "And I tell you, you are Peter [Greek, Petros--a large piece of rock], and on this rock [Greek, petra--a [huge rock like Gibraltar] I will build My church, and the gates of Hades (the powers of the infernal region) shall not overpower it [or be strong to its detriment or hold out against it]." AMP

We are the winners, we are more powerful than the devil. People don't know what is going on around them, don't take the time to learn about it or how they can use the authority that has been given to them, act on it and receive God's blessing in their lives.

Exodus 12 tells us how to apply the blood of the lamb over our homes, families

and belongings. This is something we must do on purpose. It will allow us to take authority over the devil and to control fear that the devil tries to put upon us. We have the right as believers to be overcomers from the fear of death, we do not have to die young, and our families do not have to suffer. Speaking the truth and dispelling the darkness that would be in our lives.

Pro 3:21-26 "My son, let them not escape from your sight, but keep sound and godly Wisdom and discretion, 22And they will be life to your inner self, and a gracious ornament to your neck (your outer self). 23Then you will walk in your way securely and in confident trust, and you shall not dash your foot or stumble. 24When you lie down, you shall not be afraid; yes, you shall lie down, and your sleep shall be sweet. 25Be not afraid of sudden terror and panic, nor of the stormy blast or the storm and ruin of the wicked when it comes [for you will be guiltless], 26For the Lord shall be your confidence, firm and strong, and shall keep your foot from being caught [in a trap or some hidden danger]" AMP

Psalms 34:4 "I sought (inquired of) the Lord and required Him [of necessity and on the authority of His Word], and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears." AMP

Pro 1:33 "But whoso hearkens to me [Wisdom] shall dwell securely and in confident trust and shall be quiet, without fear or dread of evil." AMP

Know your rights and privileges, standing up with the authority that you have in Jesus. Darkness will be dispelled as the light comes.