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## Allowing God Into The Storms Of Your Life

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It is breakthrough time, the angels are out working on our behalf getting things in order that the Lord is wanting to bless each of us with. God is not through with us yet, He has many good things in store for us. We have been studying what the Word has to say on finishing, not giving up, and learning how to resist the enemy, however, we need to learn how to allow God to be in the storms of our lives, what are the challenges that we may be faced with and what is needed to overcome these challenges. Without us opening the door and allowing Him to come in, it will be very challenging. Life is sometimes full of twists and turns, surprises that we haven't planned on, the enemy comes wanting us to not fulfill the plans and purposes for our lives, that is his plan and we must learn how not to be tricked and deceived by him.

John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]" AMP

Jesus is preparing His disciples for His departure in the earlier chapters, but now He teaching them what He has for them, peace and confidence, He is encouraging them because He has overcome everything that is in the world but is telling them they will be faced with different types of trials. This is what He is saying to the believers today, we must allow Him into our world knowing that He has paid the price over every situation that we might face. Our part is to take good cheer, having a good attitude and believing what the word says to us. Jesus is on the inside of us and gives us the ability to overcome anything that would try to hurt or harm us.

Phil 4:12-13 "I know what it means to lack, and I know what it means to experience overwhelming abundance. For I'm trained in the secret of overcoming all things, whether in fullness or in hunger. And I find that the strength of Christ's explosive power infuses me to conquer every difficulty."

## PASSION

Phil 4:12-13 "I know how to be abased and live humbly in straitened circumstances, and I know also how to enjoy plenty and live in abundance. I have learned in any and all circumstances the secret of facing every situation, whether well-fed or going hungry, having a sufficiency and enough to spare or going without and being in want. 13 I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me [I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me; I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency]." AMP

Phil 4:12-13 I'm glad in God, far happier than you would ever guess—happy that you're again showing such strong concern for me. Not that you ever quit praying and thinking about me. You just had no chance to show it. Actually, I don't have a sense of needing anything personally. I've learned by now to be quite content whatever my circumstances. I'm just as happy with little as with much, with much as with little. I've found the recipe for being happy whether full or hungry, hands full or hands empty. Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am. I don't mean that your help didn't mean a lot to me—it did. It was a beautiful thing that you came alongside me in my troubles." MESSAGE

Paul is teaching in these scriptures how he has been trained to overcome any circumstance that may have arisen in his life and that he has learned the secret, found the recipe regardless of those situations, with enough or with lack, knowing that Jesus has empowered him and infused inner strength to him, making him ready for anything that might come his way. Jesus' explosive power working in the believers allows them to overcome any difficulty that they might face in life.

Sometimes when we talk about the storms of life and overcoming the storms, we realize how challenging they may be and we may have a tendency to get our eyes and thoughts on the natural or what is happening around us in the realm of our natural senses and when we think about it, look at it and talk about it, we begin to pull away from the answer.

Care is always defined in the word, as something that burdens, causing to be over anxious, being carried away, or drawing us away in the opposite direction.

1 Peter 5:7 "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." KJV

Paul tells us that Jesus has promised that He will finish and complete the good work that He has started in us. Paul was in prison when he wrote this and we may be in prison by adversity of circumstances, but God's plan has never changed. Regardless of the circumstances or storm that we may be experiencing we must allow God to be

in the midst of the storm because His plan for us has not changed, we are more than overcomers, we are the head and not the tail, above and not beneath, going out and coming in, blessed in the field and blessed in the city. No weapon formed against us can prosper and every tongue that rises up against us in judgment we shall condemn for this is the heritage of the servants of the Lord.

Phil 1:6 "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:" KJV

Jesus has been teaching the disciples earlier in chapter 4 of Mark regarding the sower and how the word is the seed. They had ask Him what the parable meant and He had explained it to them in a very personal way. Now, He is teaching about storms, because a storm is intended to get our eyes off of Jesus, thinking that Gods word doesn't work and we begin to compromise and base our believing on circumstances and not on Gods word. We must base our doctrinal beliefs on the word of God, because faith comes from hearing the word of God, so we can't change our belief in the midst of a storm, if we do this we will fail. Believers will sometimes become blindsided by the circumstances that will rise up against them but if they will allow God to be involved in the storms in their lives they will be able to know that they are the winners and have the confidence knowing that God is for them and not against them.

Mark 4:34-41 "But without a parable spake he not unto them: and when they were alone, he expounded all things to his disciples. 35 And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side. 36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. 37 And there a\*\*rose a great \*storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. 38 And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? 39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. 40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? 41 And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?" KJV

\*\*arose something not expected, was not normal, would blindside them, catching them off guard

\*storm is a violent attack to stop them from fulfilling the plan of God, there is a strong force behind it

Jesus had a plan and purpose to cross over to the other side, but during the trip they encountered a fierce storm, the waves were so bad that they begin to fill the boat.

Jesus goes to sleep in the front of the boat, He was not aware of the trouble that was going on around them, but the disciples were upset thinking that He didn't care about them. This storm was not caused by God but by the enemy, wanting to cause the disciples fear and anxiety, thinking that they were going to perish. This is how the enemy wants to make the believers think, with an unrenewed mind or a sense ruled mind, that God doesn't care about them and this will always bring doubt and fear in their lives.

Jesus arose, rebuked the wind and the sea became calm. They were amazed that even the wind obeyed Him. He questioned their faith. There was a reason why Jesus wanted to reach the other side, there was much ministry for Him and the people that they would encounter there. It is the same with the storms of life for the believers, they will have to rise up, be bold and confident, speak to the adversity or circumstances that have come their way, saying that it is enough, adversity is not coming any further. In the power of Jesus name the believer is going to the other side, they are finishing their course and being obedient to the will of God and faithful right to the end. They must stand up in the midst of the storm, not waiting until it is over. It is easy to stand when it is over, but the Christ that is in them will empower them to stand, when they speak in Jesus name. The plan of God for their lives is when they are in the midst of the storm is to have peace and calm. Jesus is the calm in the midst of the storm, He not only conquered the world but He overpowered it for the believers in the midst of challenging times.

John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]" AMP

Paul had forewarned the people who were transporting him to Rome, that there would be a large dangerous storm arise, it would put the lives of everyone on the ship in danger, but those in charge refused to listen to him until what he had told them happened, then they begin to realize that the words he spoke were true and there was great danger for them. They began to unload cargo and lighten the boat as the storm grew fiercer. The following scriptures tell of the plight that they ensued and the outcome of them and the ship, they had lost all hope fearing for their lives but God had a plan and purpose for Paul's life, even though the enemy tried to change the plan and kill him, God's plan never changed, Paul was going to

accomplish what had been set before him, he would be brought before Caesar.

Sometimes believers have been in situations that it seems as though hope is all gone, it has been snatched away, taken away from them. The bible even tells them that when all hope is taken away from them, it will make a heart sick.

Acts 27:20-25 "And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest lay on us, all hope that we should be saved was then taken away. 21 But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss. 22 And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship. 23 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, 24 Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee. 25 Wherefore, sirs, be of good \*cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me." KJV

We are learning how to allow God into the midst of the storm, when the believer is in the midst of the storm, they must release a measure of faith and not allow their senses to govern what comes out of their mouths, but speak what God is saying. Get a proper attitude about the situation and allow God to give you the plans that He has for your future.

Paul was speaking about the word that had been given to him, God was talking to him about his future and it tells us that God's plan has never changed in the most violent storm that we have ever encountered, regardless of the situation, that He will talk with you if you will listen and give you a word about your future. He will empower you and enable you to endure the storm but to have peace in the storm knowing that it will be alright. We are encouraged to be of good cheer, this is probably one of the hardest things that we can do, but it is imperative that we be thankful, a time to be worshipping God. Good cheer will deal with fear, fear is crippling and will cause us to wear out. We will be tested for what we believe and be able to stand in faith. Speaking in the midst of the storm with the words that we have received from God and as we come out of the midst of the storm, there will be a fresh anointing and presence of God on our lives.

\*cheer means to be happy and have a good attitude, don't be speaking badly, being thankful.

There will be seasons in all of our lives where we need to be rejoicing, it may be for only a season that the trials are the heaviest, but the enemy is trying to get us to quit regardless of what we are going through. Rejoicing has a meaning of leaping and

skipping excessively, to leap forward with joy and delight and exalt Jesus. We won't allow this to happen if we have pride controlling our lives. We must be speaking the words, renewing our minds with the words that God has given to us and not let the enemy choke off those words, they are life to us and bring freedom and blessings. Speak to the problem and not talk about the problem, just like Jesus spoke to the wind. Know what the word of God says about the problem, knowing that we will have a favorable outcome if we allow God into the storms of our life.

1 Peter 1:6-7 "Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: 7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:" KJV

Hos 4:6 "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children." KJV

2 Cor 4:13 "We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;" KJV

Jer 29:11 "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end" KJV