

Walking in Your Deliverance - Part 1

Exodus 14:11-14 "...and the children of Israel cried out to the Lord. Then they said to Moses, 'Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, "Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians?" For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness.' And Moses said to the people, '**Do NOT be AFRAID. Stand still and see the DELIVERANCE of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today.** For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. The **Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace (be quiet).**'"

We all need deliverance from SOMETHING at some time in our lives. Whether it is deliverance from drugs, alcohol, sexual immorality, depression, fear, worry, bondage to food, wrong relationships, or whatever, it is something that we find ourselves powerless over, and we need God to remove it from our lives. In the Old Testament, Egypt represents the old life of slavery before we were saved; the Promised Land represents the victorious, Spirit-filled Christian life; and the wandering in the wilderness represents the carnal, defeated life of the Christians who never fully surrender their lives to Christ. The following steps will enable you to reach that victorious life of freedom in Christ Jesus, so that you may walk in your deliverance that Jesus has already paid for with His precious blood, and that you may enter the Promised Land.

1. **Quit Fighting** — "Stand still" - "**He will accomplish** for you today" - "The Lord will fight for you." Many of you say, "**I've TRIED SO HARD, but I just CAN'T do it!**" The key to overcoming addictions, depression, or other problems is to **STOP trying in your own strength**, and just TRUST the Lord, and LET Him fight for you. When you quit fighting, you must "BE STILL" and trust the Lord, and you do that by spending "quiet time" with the Lord, getting to KNOW HIM through reading His word, and through talking with Him in prayer.
 - Psalm 46:10** "**Be still, and know** that I am God...."
 - Read II Chronicles 20:12-23** "For **we are powerless** before this great multitude who are coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but OUR EYES ARE ON YOU.....Thus says the Lord to you, 'Do not fear or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the BATTLE is NOT YOURS, but GOD'S. You shall not need to fight in this battle; station yourselves, stand and see the deliverance of the Lord on your behalf.... Do not fear or be dismayed....go out to face them, for the Lord is with you.'"

2. **Quit Whining and Crying and Start Moving** — "and you shall **hold your peace (be quiet).**" Whining, grumbling, or complaining never accomplish anything, because they are actually UNBELIEF! You must CHOOSE to SEE your deliverance and WALK in it by DOING the things God has told you to do. You must GO FORWARD, even if just "baby steps" at first. (verse 15) "And the Lord said to Moses, '**Why do you cry to Me?** Tell the children of Israel **to go forward.**'"
 - I Corinthians 5:7** "For **we WALK by FAITH**, not by sight."
 - Philippians 2:14** "**Do all things** without murmuring and disputing (grumbling and complaining)."

3. **Don't Look Back - Leave the Past Behind** — Even your most difficult times of testing as a Christian are STILL better than your old life of slavery to sin. Satan will try to get you to COMPARE and think the old life was easier or better

somehow. "For **it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians** than that we should die in the wilderness."

•**Psalm 84:10** "For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand [e/ewhere]. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness."

4. **Don't Shift Blame to Someone Else** — "Then **they said to Moses**, 'Because there were no graves in Egypt, **have YOU taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have YOU** so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt?' Take responsibility for your own issues. Turn them over to God, but then EXPECT God to heal you or show you how to overcome them. In 12-Step Recovery we look at the past during our 4th and 5th Steps, but we give it up to God, and must NOT dwell in the past, blaming others for our condition. Jesus knew that there are people who ENJOY their helplessness or sickness. It is a way of getting attention or sympathy, or of avoiding responsibilities. Many people just crawl into a "hole" and say, "I can't do this or that, because of my affliction or because **I've been so wounded** in the past." There are Christians who complain day after day about their lives, but will make no effort to change them. Philippians 4:13 says, "**I can do ALL THINGS through Christ** who strengthens me," but they don't really believe it, and are constantly making excuses.

•**John 5:5-7** "Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that **he already had been in that condition a long time**, He said to him, "**Do you WANT to be made well?**" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me."

5. **Do Not Be Afraid** — The first words Moses spoke were, "**Do NOT be AFRAID**" and the reason WHY we don't have to be afraid, is because of all the things the Lord has promised to do for us. Jesus also spoke many times by first saying, "**Do NOT be AFRAID.**" The reason He said it first, is because **FEAR is the OPPOSITE of FAITH**, and He can't do anything in your life without faith.

•**Hebrews 11:6** "But **without FAITH** it is impossible to please Him (God), for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

•**Mark 5:35-36** "While He was still speaking, some came from the ruler of the synagogue's house who said, 'Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?' As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, '**Do not be AFRAID; only BELIEVE.**'"

6. **Don't Listen to the Wrong Voices** — These "wrong voices" can be advice from other people, demonic voices, or just "old tapes" from the past that you allow to run in your head (failing to take your thoughts captive). In Exodus 32:1-24, Aaron listened to the voices of the people, and he made an idol, the golden calf, for the people to worship. The people were impatient, because Moses was DELAYED in coming down from the mountain. If you feel God is DELAYING His answer to your prayer somehow, **DON'T give in to the temptation** to either push ahead in your own strength, or GO BACK to Egypt (back into old habits or addictive behaviors).

•**1 Timothy 4:1** "Now the Spirit expressly says that in the last days some will depart from the faith, **giving heed (listening) to SEDUCING SPIRITS** and DOCTRINES (teachings) of DEMONS; speaking LIES in hypocrisy..."

•**Chronicles 10:13** "So Saul died for his transgression which he committed AGAINST THE LORD, even AGAINST the WORD of the LORD, which he did not keep, and also for **ASKING COUNSEL of a FAMILIAR SPIRIT** (listening to the voice of a demon), to inquire of it."

•**Deut. 13:1-3** "If there should arise among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams (one who claims to see visions), who gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, 'Let us go after other gods and serve them,' **you SHALL NOT LISTEN or PAY ATTENTION to the words** of that prophet.... "

•**I Corinthians 10:4-5** "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (merely human), but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; **casting down imaginations**, and **every high thing (thoughts, lies from Satan)** that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and **bringing into captivity EVERY THOUGHT** to the OBEDIENCE OF CHRIST."

7. **Don't Stand Too Close to the Edge** — Some people want to have the blessings (which includes deliverance) of the Christian life without the commitment. They want to see how close to the world they can be, and still be considered a Christian.

•**I John 2:15-16** "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world."

8. **Examine Yourself and Get Rid of Pride** — Many of us don't think we have a problem with pride. Pride can be thinking you are better than others, but it can also be just **holding onto your own will - YOUR right to make YOUR OWN decisions**. Become a "living sacrifice" by sacrificing and turning your will over to God completely.

•**I Corinthians 11:28 & 31-32** "But **let a man examine himself....For if we would judge (examine) ourselves**, we would not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened (disciplined) by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world."

•**Romans 12:1-3** ".....present your bodies as a LIVING SACRIFICE, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. For I say,to everyone who is among you, **not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think (pride)**, but to think soberly, as God has dealt (given) to each one a measure of faith."

9. **Be Obedient** — Make a total commitment of your life, every day, moment by moment, to OBEY what God says in His word!

•**I John 3:22** "And whatsoever we ask, we receive from Him, because **we KEEP His COMMANDMENTS**, and DO those things which are PLEASING in His sight."

10. **Fasting** — Finally, after you have done everything in the steps above, if you need a breakthrough, if old habits are still not conquered, or if old problems keep clinging to you, you may need to fast. Prayer together with fasting is especially effective for breaking down strongholds that have been in your life for a long time.

•**Mark 9:29** ".....'**This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and FASTING.**'"

Walking in Your Deliverance- Part 2

(Understanding Your Authority in Christ - Entering the Promised Land)

1. **Our Authority is Based on Our Position:** We are SEATED with Christ FAR ABOVE Satan and his demons, and He has given us AUTHORITY over ALL of Satan's power:
 - Ephesians 1:20-21** "Which He wrought in Christ when He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places, **FAR ABOVE all principality, and power** (Satan & demons), and might, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this world, but also in that which is to come."
 - Ephesians 2:4-6** "But GOD, who is rich in mercy, for His great love with which He loved US, even when we were dead in sins, has made US alive together with Christ (by grace are you saved); and has raised US up together, and **has made US to sit together** in heavenly places **with Christ Jesus.**"
 - Luke 10:19** "Behold, I give **YOU the authority** to tread upon serpents and scorpions, **and over ALL the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt YOU.**"

2. **Our Authority is Based on Our Commission:** Jesus said He is sending us to go out in the same power and anointing of the Holy Spirit that He had, and the AUTHORITY that was given to Him by the Father, **He GIVES TO US!**
 - Matthew 28:18-20** "Then Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, '**ALL AUTHORITY** has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **Go therefore** and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, **I am with you always**, even to the end of the age.'"
 - John 20:21** "Then Jesus said to them again, 'Peace to you! **AS the FATHER has SENT Me, I also SEND YOU.**'"
 - Luke 4:18** "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because **He has anointed Me** to preach the gospel to the poor, **He has sent Me** to heal the brokenhearted, to preach DELIVERANCE to the CAPTIVES, and recovering of sight to the blind; to SET AT LIBERTY those who are OPPRESSED."
 - Acts 10:38** "How God **anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with POWER:** who went about doing good, and HEALING ALL that were OPPRESSED OF THE DEVIL, for God was with Him."
 - John 14:12** "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, **the WORKS that I do he will do also;** and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father."

3. **Because of Our Position and Authority, we are no longer SLAVES to sin (but we have free will & can CHOOSE to disobey God):**
 - Romans 6:3-6 & 17-18** "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were BURIED with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so **we also should walk in NEWNESS of LIFE.** For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection. Knowing that **our OLD MAN was crucified with Him,** that the body of sin might be done away with, **that we should no longer be SLAVES of sin.** For he who has died has been freed from sin." "But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you OBEYED from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And **having been SET FREE from SIN, you became slaves of RIGHTEOUSNESS.**"
 - I John 4:4** "You are of God, little children, and HAVE OVERCOME THEM; because **GREATER is He that is IN YOU** (the Holy Spirit), than he that is in the world (Satan)."

4. **God has Given us a Strategy, a Game Plan:** God has provided weapons for us that are "MIGHTY through God" and the full armor of God.

• **I Peter 5:8-9** "Be sober, be VIGILANT, because your adversary (enemy) the DEVIL walks about as a roaring lion, SEEKING WHOM he MAY devour: whom RESIST steadfast in the faith....."

• **Ephesians 6:10-18** "Finally, my brethren, **be STRONG IN THE LORD**, and in the **power of His MIGHT**. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to **stand AGAINST the SCHEMES of the DEVIL**. For we do NOT wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and **HAVING DONE ALL**, to stand."

5. **It's Not Automatic - You Have to Enforce it:** The area where most Christians fail or fall down is the area of controlling their thoughts. It is OUR OWN CHOICE to obey what God says in His word, or not. If we obey God and take every thought captive and "guard ourselves" (see I John 5:18), the wicked one (Satan) cannot touch us. It is when we FAIL TO OBEY, and **we entertain or harbor those thoughts that are contrary to God's word** ("every high thing that exalts itself AGAINST God"), that Satan is allowed an entrance into our lives (see Eph. 4:26-27). If this sin is not confessed and corrected, and if we CONTINUALLY entertain wrong thoughts, we give Satan "ground" and ALLOW him to build strongholds in our life. "Ground" means a sphere of jurisdiction that **we VOLUNTARILY give to the enemy**. Many people are MENTALLY LAZY and PASSIVE, and they ALLOW these wrong thoughts to control them, and ALLOW Satan to build strongholds in their lives. They are saved, but they are miserable by their own CHOICE. They ask for OTHER PEOPLE to PRAY for THEM, but they remain in the same condition, because God has told THEM to do something about it, and they REFUSE to do it.

• **Mark 16:17-18** "And these signs will follow **THOSE who BELIEVE**; in My name **THEY will cast out demons.....THEY will lay hands on the sick** and **THEY WILL RECOVER.**"

• **II Corinthians 10:3-5** "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh: for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (merely human), but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; **casting down imaginations, and every high thing (thoughts, lies from Satan)** that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and **bringing into captivity EVERY THOUGHT TO THE OBEDIENCE OF CHRIST.**"

Do NOT LISTEN to Satan's LIES. You MUST learn to CONTROL your THOUGHTS and NOT accept or believe Satan's lies. Remember, in "Walking In Your Deliverance - Part 1" where we said, "**Don't Listen to the Wrong Voices**"? These "wrong voices" can be advice from other people, demonic voices, or just "old tapes" from the past that you allow to run in your head (failing to take your thoughts captive). Some Christians even **ACCEPT demonic voices** and suggestions as if they were their own thoughts, or else they seem to feel they are helpless against them. This is what the SHIELD of FAITH in Ephesians 6:16 is for! Hold up that shield, **REJECT** any wrong thoughts or VOICES in the name of Jesus, and fill your mind with the word of God! Be careful — Satan will not announce that these doubts and sinful thoughts are from him, but will make them seem like YOUR OWN thoughts.

Example from the Old Testament: Numbers 13:25-14:38

I Corinthians 10:1-11 "Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition..."

Israelites

1. God gave them the Promised Land, but they had to go into battle and TAKE IT from the enemy (Deut. 11:8 & 23-25).
2. God promised them they would be victorious by His power (Num. 13:30, 14:8-9).
3. The majority doubted God's promise, whined and complained, and as a result, wandered in the wilderness for the rest of their lives (Num. 14:1-3 & 27-36).
4. Caleb and Joshua believed God's promises, and they entered the Promised Land (Num. 14:29-30 & 38).
5. Those who doubted, saw themselves as weak and helpless, and saw the enemy as giants (Num. 13:33.)

Body of Christ

1. God gives us victory in Christ, but we have to go into battle and TAKE IT from the enemy (Rom. 8:37, Mark 16:17-18, II Cor. 10:3-5, Eph. 6:10-18)
2. God promises us we will be victorious by His power in us (Eph. 6:10-13, Eph. 3:16-20, I John 4:4, I John 5:4-5).
3. The majority of Christians doubt God's promises in His word, whine and complain, and as a result, spend most of their lives in bondage or defeat. (Heb. 3:16-19 & 4:1-2, James 1:6-8, Matt. 13:22).
4. Some Christians believe God and walk in victory (Mark 9:23, Rom. 8:37, Phil. 4:13, Matt. 13:23).
5. Those who doubt, see themselves as weak and helpless, and see Satan as having authority over them (I Peter 5:8, II Cor. 11:1-4, Matt. 17:19-20).