

Turn Us Again Part 4 by Ps Ben Saayman

GOD WILL ALWAYS COME THROUGH FOR YOU

Psalm 80:1-3 NKJV Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock; You who dwell between the cherubim, shine forth! [2] Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, Stir up Your strength, and come and save us! [3] Restore us, O God; cause Your face to shine, and we shall be saved!

Reflecting on this series, I was reminded of:

Where I started in my walk in Christ / Where I am in this journey now / Where I want to be or trusting to be in the future.

Where I want to be – is to be as close to God as I can.

Where God wants to lead me to, is where I will go. That's the only thing that matters.

And here's what I know - from where I started until now - God always came through for me!

We can rely on the Holy Spirit to guide and lead us.

Galatians 5:25 NKJV If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

How can we walk in the Spirit?

We are constantly facing battles and the fact is although we are looking forward to spending eternity in Heaven, we live in a fallen world.

We still have work to do here in this beautiful South coast we live in.

Psalm 37:23-24 NKJV The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, And He delights in his way. [24] Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the LORD upholds him with His hand.

How can we March in the Spirit? How can we move as the body of Christ from one battle to the next, arriving prepared and ready to take on the enemy!

First of all we have to clear up some misconceptions:

1. First one is many people think that after you have been born-again, all your problems should be solved.

You March in the Spirit and you never have another trial. But that's not the way it is.

It's after you've come to Christ, repented of your sins, received His forgiveness and been filled with the Holy Spirit that you learn how to walk in victory.

Problems and troubles won't disappear just because you've become a Spirit filled Christian. You're still in this world.

2. Second one is that Walking in Victory with the Holy Spirit is only for an ELITE GROUP of super spiritual people.

That's NOT true - Walking in victory, walking in the spirit, marching as part of the body of Christ with a

TURN
US
AGAIN



warrior mentality to take on the enemy, is for every believer.... You included.

God intends for everyone to live in Victory, to walk in the Spirit.

But how is it done?

Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; [7] and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Paul was writing this letter to the church of Philippi saying: DON'T Live your lives daily FULL OF Worry!! He was saying to the church - make a decision not to dwell on your problems.

This doesn't mean that we won't have any problems

John 16:33 NKJV These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

The world is full of problems and in today's high pressure society - no one is exempt from it. No one is exempt from stress.

The First thing to do:

Make a conscious decision that we will not DWELL on the PROBLEMS AROUND US. They are there but we are making a conscious decision to walk in the spirit victoriously!

We are so used to worrying that most of us don't even notice it is EATING away and creating a VOID in our lives.

Just a few examples of WORRYING

- a) Steals our precious time with our LOVED ONES. Usually when I worry I am not the best person to be around.
- b) It STEALS YOUR PRECIOUS TIME. Because it can be like a bad hobby, you can do it for hours - the only thing is - there are no results to show.
- c) It steals precious time you could have had with GOD, JESUS and the HOLY SPIRIT.

The first thing we should do when facing a problem is to pull ourselves up and say... I WILL NOT WORRY ABOUT THIS.

You have the privilege and authority to determine your response to a real problem. You have the ability to determine what your next step of action will be rather than to focus on worrying about the situation.

You must recognize the "WORRY RESPONSE" as the likely first blow from the enemy

And once you are determined that worry will not consume your time and energy in dealing with the situation, you're in a perfect position to take the next step.

TURN
US
AGAIN



We as God's children need to be trained to move through the place of panic to the place of action. Soldiers are trained how to react when they come into contact with the enemy. We too must train how to react.

We must confront "worry" for what it is: a trick of the enemy, that delays us, saps our spiritual energy, stalls our efforts and immobilizes God's children

Choosing not to be anxious doesn't mean that we put our minds in neutral and do nothing.

When the apostle Paul told us what not to do, he also told us what we are to do instead:

Philippians 4:6 NKJV Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

Instead of worrying, start praying.

To me prayer means: asking God for help (you recognize Him as your source) and supplication means to get down to business with God.

In supplication we say: Lord... I've got to have an answer; Lord I've got to have a solution and I've got to have Your will on this matter now.

The kind of prayer God hears is a prayer of faith. That's the prayer that says - I believe in You, I believe you knew about this problem even before it came my way.

In fact one of the Biblical names for God is "JEHOVAH JIREH" which means the God who sees and provides.

ABRAHAM AND ISAAC

We find that name in the Account of Abraham's attempted sacrifice of Isaac in obedience to God's command in Genesis 22:1-19

The Lord was truly the one who saw everything. He saw Abraham going up the mountain with his son Isaac. He saw the wood they carried. He saw the EMOTIONAL TURMOIL going on inside of Abraham as he OBEYED. If ever there was a REASON for ABRAHAM to worry, he certainly had one.

But instead we find him going up that mountain saying to himself "GOD JEHOVAH JIREH WILL PROVIDE A SACRIFICE".

And he believed that if it was God's will for Isaac to die, then God would raise him from the dead. Abraham had the KIND OF FAITH that saw God as the one who would RENEW LIFE in RESURRECTION

Hebrews 11:18-19 NKJV of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," [19] concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

So Abraham didn't worry about the situation. He was too busy BELIEVING THAT GOD HAD THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL.

TURN
US
AGAIN



Meanwhile as Abraham and Isaac were walking up the mountain, a little ram was already getting itself into position under God's direction. The animal was heading straight for one particular thorn bush, where he would be entangled in exactly the right place at the right time to solve Abraham's problem.

You may be facing a need right now but let me assure you, God is the one who sees that need and at the same time sees His solution for that need.

He is Jehovah Jireh, the one who sees and provides; just as you are climbing up your mountain in your dilemma and struggle, He's already preparing a ram to solve your problem.

HOW SHOULD WE PRAY THEN?

Because of Jesus' Resurrection my sins are forgiven when I repent or turn around from my mistakes. I can move forward, my head is cleared of clutter and I'm ready to hear God's voice.

- 1) I can pray in FAITH that Jesus will deliver me
- 2) I can pray that the FULLNESS of the Holy Spirit will be OPERATING in me and that I can know His Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Faithfulness, Mercy, Self control, Gentleness and Goodness in my life. **Galatians 5:22-23 NKJV** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [23] gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.
- 3) I can pray that the Holy Spirit will be my COUNSELOR and COMFORTER
John 14:16-17 NKJV And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— [17] the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.
- 4) I can pray boldly for Total HEALTH in body, mind, spirit, relationships and finances
I can pray for WHOLENESS of LIFE. **3 John 1:2 NKJV** Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.
- 5) Because of Jesus I can pray to be the HEAD and not the TAIL
Deuteronomy 28:13 NKJV And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them.
- 6) Because of Jesus we can be more than CONQUERORS and KNOW SUCCESS in this life.
So I can pray that Jesus will rule and reign over any negative circumstances in my life and extend His kingdom to cover that territory and claim it.

Jesus has already died for all of this. The work has already been done, so victory won't come by anything I do in my own efforts. It will come by what I allow Jesus to do in the situation, what I allow Jesus to be in the circumstances, what I allow Jesus to live out, through me in the midst of a problem.

Here's the thing - many things we simply don't know. I can't know in my finite mind the full will of God,

TURN
US
AGAIN



so it is at this point that I should ask for the wisdom of God. I can only say... God I don't know what to do but You said that You would give me super abundant wisdom, if I ask.

James 1:5 NKJV If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

And as you start praying... God will drop FAITH into your spirit. WHERE your faith is weak He will drop His ANSWER into your heart.

Can you see how it is IMPOSSIBLE to experience the Faith of God in your heart if you are in a state of WORRY?

You have to get out of worry before you can experience faith.

You have to put a stop on the one before you can receive the other.

Can you see how impossible it is to hear God speak His answer into your heart, if you are trying to figure things out for yourself in your state of worry? You must get yourself quiet before the Lord and be in an attitude of prayer before so you can hear God's voice and understand His will for you in the midst of your circumstances.

PRAISE

Philippians 4:6 NKJV Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

All of heaven gets to work on the problem the moment you start praising. Praise is the language of faith, praise is your way of saying you acknowledge God as the victor in the circumstance

PRAISE is Focusing on the OUTCOME of the situation. It's BELIEVING and saying with your FAITH that God WINS!

PEACE

Philippians 4:7 NKJV and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Deep ABIDING PEACE is the Hallmark of Walking in the Spirit

Psalms 23:2 NKJV He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

Show me a man or woman who's walking through life's circumstances with great PEACE and I'll show you a person who's WALKING in the VICTORY of the Holy SPIRIT.

John 14:27 NKJV Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

God wants you to have peace. I believe that peace is one of the most important benefits and

TURN
US
AGAIN



greatest blessings God has given us. However, in the busyness of rushing around, we often feel anything but peaceful. But it doesn't need to be that way.

Colossians 3:15 NKJV And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

To "rule" here means to umpire your heart; that means God tells you what is safe and what is out.

Just consider a moment what comes after a battle and ultimately after a war.... PEACE.

Have you made PURSUING PEACE a PRIORITY? God wants you to. Follow the Holy Spirit into the peace that is rightfully yours in Christ.

Walking in the victory of the Holy Spirit is knowing that while there may be a battle... you'll win because of Jesus inside you...

JEHOSHAPHAT

2 Chronicles 20

Jehoshaphat found HIS KINGDOM in great danger. They were completely surrounded by three armies. He was invaded from 3 sides by the combined forces of the enemy.

2 Chronicles 20:3 NKJV And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

The Bible says he SET HIMSELF to SEEK the Lord. He didn't set himself to WORRY. He had a real problem and he knew it. Three alien armies were on his borders and there was no way to escape. But Jehoshaphat made up his mind to SEEK the Lord. In the face of such an overwhelming problem he PRAYED the COVENANT PROMISES of God.

He prayed: "God You gave us this land. This is OUR LAND but it is only ours because You provided it for us, and gave it to us. You are the ruler of this land. And now we're about to be overrun by the enemy. We could have destroyed these people when we first came into this area, but You told us not to do that.

2 Chronicles 20:12 NKJV O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You."

There's nothing wrong with coming to the Lord in an attitude of 'not knowing'.

Then Jehoshaphat added... "BUT OUR EYES ARE UPON YOU". HE didn't have the answer. Nothing has prepared him for such a time. He couldn't rely on past experience. Nevertheless Jehoshaphat DID KNOW SOMEONE who had the answer.

2 Chronicles 20:13 NKJV Now all Judah, with their little ones, their wives, and their children, stood before the LORD.

TURN
US
AGAIN



So the answer sent by God came through Jahaziel "listen everyone, the Lord says to you: don't be afraid or dismayed. The battle isn't yours but God's. Go down to where they are tomorrow. But you won't need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand your ground, and see the salvation of the Lord. Don't be afraid for the Lord will be with you."

Jehoshaphat got an answer about what to do. I've never SEEN IT FAIL when you say: "LORD, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO... BUT MY EYES ARE ON YOU!"

If you tell God how bad your problems are, you will NEVER HEAR AN ANSWER from God because you will never get around to asking Him the question. You'll be too busy reciting the circumstances. But if you come to God and pray the word of God back to Him, God always responds to His word!

After Jehoshaphat received God's word, he bowed his head to the ground and all the people fell before the Lord, worshipping God. They started their praise service

2 Chronicles 20:19 NKJV Then the Levites of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korahites stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with voices loud and high.

They got happy before God; even with those three great armies camped all around them.

So the next morning Jehoshaphat gathered all his people together and said, "listen everybody, believe in the Lord your God and you will be established, believe his prophets and you will prosper."

Then he gathered the choir together and told them: you will march on the enemy, but not with man-made weapons of warfare; you will lead the way with spiritual weapons of warfare, you will march declaring the high praises of God and singing praises to the Lord"

2 Chronicles 20:23 NKJV For the people of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of Mount Seir to utterly kill and destroy them. And when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, they helped to destroy one another.

It took Jehoshaphat and his people 3 days to gather up all the spoil. They found an abundance of riches and precious jewels. It was in fact more than they could carry away. They had prospered in the face of an enemy assault.

God can turn what the enemy uses for evil into something good for His children. When we pray and ask God, our measure is "good" is enough, but God's measure is abundance! God doesn't settle for good... He operates in abundance!!!

JONAH

Perhaps you are sitting there any saying to yourself, well Ps Ben this is a great Word but I can't ASSOCIATE MYSELF with Jehoshaphat's situation because he was in the WILL OF GOD and FORCES BEYOND HIS CONTROL came against him.

TURN
US
AGAIN



My problems are SELF INDUCED. I'm not facing three armies from a foreign land
I've made mistakes and created my own mess. Well if that's the case I have good news for you!

It's found in a story of a prophet named Jonah: God told Jonah to go preach at Nineveh!
Nineveh was a CORRUPTED CITY with an evil King and had a population of 120000. This was a city with
a bad reputation. What did Jonah DO when God told him to GO? He started to WORRY!

Instead, He went to Joppa and bought a boat ticket to TARSHISH.
Jonah went into the opposite direction! He FLED from the PRESENCE of the Lord.
That's FIRST CLASS DISOBEDIENCE! Any time you sin or are disobedient to God, you are FLEEING from
God's face and presence.

As the boat sailed, a great wind arose and there was a big storm. Jonah was below deck and asleep
when the captain woke him up and said: CALL ON YOUR GOD THAT WE MIGHT BE SAVED.

When you are not in the will of God you are always:
Alone / Tired because of worrying / you have no authority over your situation.

Jonah could have prayed for the storm to stop, but he could do nothing about it.

WHEN YOU FEEL POWERLESS YOU WANT TO THROW YOURSELF OVERBOARD AND ABANDON SHIP

It's in the moments you walk in your OWN STRENGTH, making mistakes, when you feel MOST
VULNERABLE because you think that God doesn't want to hear from you.

In a moment like this, is when we can surrender and just be as a child before God, losing yourself and
redirecting your confidence in a living God.

The crew casted lots and it fell on Jonah. Eventually you'll have to face the consequences (with or
without God). The situation's outcome eventually was determined by the surroundings (the crew)
How could the storm be calmed? Jonah said throw me overboard so I can die. Which the crew
eventually did...and it reads that God Jehovah Jireh sent a great fish to swallow Jonah up...for 3 days
and 3 nights.

I believe something POWERFUL happened in Jonah's life during those 3 days and nights in the fish's
belly. Firstly, he was DOOMED to DIE when the crew threw him OVERBOARD INTO THE STORM.
Jonah believed he deserved to DIE because of his DISOBEDIENCE. That was the only way out for him
in that situation.

But God didn't allow that, God wanted him to live. He was in a very gross place - in a belly of a whale.
Do you think that he at some stage thought, "Why am I here? I should have died."

Is this a coincidence? Luck, maybe? What are the odds? The chances of being swallowed up by fish
at the right time, the right place, somewhere in the ocean?

Or can this be God! Do you think he might have thought that? Do you think he might have thought

TURN
US
AGAIN



God I turned my back on You, why didn't you turn Your back on me, You have every reason to...
Have you ever felt like that?

But now You rescued me...

Jonah 2:1-2 NKJV Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the fish's belly. [2] And he said: "I cried out to the LORD because of my affliction, and He answered me. "Out of the belly of Sheol I cried, And You heard my voice.

No matter how deep or where you are in a situation, your prayer and praises always reach heaven!
And in this darkest of times Jonah receives the peace of God!

Luke 1:79 NKJV To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, To guide our feet into the way of peace."

At the end of the day, this is what matters: "God's peace that surpasses all understanding"
That's what Jesus gave us - His peace.

God sees and will always provide an outcome. It might not be what you bargained for though

During this time in the fish, Jonah decided to get his mind off the problem. What did he do?
Jonah chose as an act of his will not to worry, and he started praying and declaring the word of God.
What happens next - the fish got a sour stomach and vomited Jonah out.

Your problems will also get sick of you, when you start praying God's blessings and covenant promises in the midst of your circumstances rather than to worry about them.

Then like Jonah you will find yourself on dry land again.

If you feel that you have caused the problems that surround you, but the circumstances can still change. Don't worry about them, pray about them!

Repent of your disobedience and turn your entire life back to God.

Start praying for His covenant promises we have in Jesus. Begin to praise God in the very midst of your circumstances and I believe that you too will see the salvation and deliverance of the Lord.

God will always come through for you!

TURN
US
AGAIN

