

# WORD BASICS

## STRENGTH & POWER

### 1. GOD'S STRENGTH VS. YOUR STRENGTH:

#### A. GOD IS INFINITELY MORE POWERFUL THAN WEAK MAN:

- Psa.8:3,4      When I consider Thy heavens... the moon & the stars, which Thou hast [made]...what is man?
- Isa.40:15,17, 22      All nations before Him are as nothing...as a drop of a bucket...less than nothing
- Dan.4:35      All the inhabitants of earth are reputed as nothing, none can stay His hand
- 1Cor.1:25      [Even] the weakness of God is stronger than men  
(See also 2Chr.20:6; Psa.89:6.)

#### B. AN HONEST VIEW OF MAN & HIS STRENGTH:

- Job 14:1,2      Man...is of few days...he cometh forth like a flower, & is cut down (See also Job 7:1)
- Isa.40:6-8      All flesh is grass...the grass withereth (See also Psa.90:5b,6; 103:15,16; Jam.1:10,11; 1Pet.1:24,25.)
- Job 8:9      We know nothing...our days upon earth are a shadow
- Psa.39:5,6      Every man at his best state is altogether vanity
- Psa.144:3,4      What is man? Man is vanity: his days are as a shadow (See also 1Chr.29:15; Psa.62:9; 90:10; Eccl.6:12.)
- Psa.78:39      He remembered they were but flesh; a wind that passeth away (See also Isa.2:22; Jam.4:14,15 .)
- Psa.103:14      He knoweth our frame...remembereth that we are dust (See also Gen.18:27; Isa.29:5,6 .)
- Job 25:6      Man is a worm
- Isa.40:22      The inhabitants of the earth are as grasshoppers  
(See also Job 4:18-20; Rom.7:18.)

#### C. GOD IS ABLE TO DO ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING:

- Jer.32:27      I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for Me? (See also Gen.18:14)
- Job 42:2      I know that Thou canst do everything
- Psa.62:11      Power belongeth unto God
- Mat.19:26      With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible
- Mat.28:18      All power is given unto Me in Heaven & in earth

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#### D. GOD HAS TOTAL POWER OVER MAN:

- Job 12:10 In (His) hand is the soul of every living thing, & the breath of all mankind (See also Dan.5:23)
- Job 12:13-25 With Him is strength...He increaseth the nations, & destroyeth them (See Psa.75:6,7; 107:33-40.)
- Isa.43:13 There is none that can deliver out of My hand
- Psa.115:3 God...hath done whatsoever He hath pleased
- Isa.64:8 We are the clay, & Thou our potter; we all are the work of Thy hand (See also Isa.45:9) (See also 1Chr.29:12; 2Chr.20:6; Job 9:4; Psa.104:29, 30; Isa.40:23,25.)

#### 2. TRUST IN THE LORD, NOT YOUR OWN STRENGTH:

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##### A. LET GOD STRENGTHEN YOU WITH HIS STRENGTH:

- Eph.6:10 Be strong in the Lord, & in the power of His might
- 2Chr.20:12 We have no might against this great company...neither know we what to do: our eyes are upon Thee
- Psa.20:7,8 Some trust in chariots, & some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God
- Psa.84:5 Blessed is the man whose strength is in Thee
- Psa.105:4 Seek the Lord & His strength: seek His face evermore Isa.26:4 Trust in the Lord, in the Lord is everlasting strength
- 2Cor.3:4,5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves...but our sufficiency is of God
- Phi.3:3 We worship God...& have no confidence in the flesh  
(See also Exo.15:2; 2Sam.22:33; Psa.27:1; 68:28,35; 118:8; 147:10,11.)

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##### B. HE CAN DO WHAT YOU CAN'T DO:

- Zech.4:6 Not by (your) might, nor by power, but by My Spirit
- 1Sam.2:9b By [your own] strength shall no man prevail
- Psa.60:11 Give us help from trouble: vain is the help of man
- Psa.127:1 Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it
- Jn.15:5 Without Me ye can do nothing  
(See also Job 9:19a; Psa.33:16,17.)

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##### C. DO WHAT YOU CAN, BUT SUCCESS DEPENDS ON GOD:

- Pro.21:31 The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the Lord
- Neh.4:14 Be not ye afraid of them: [but] remember the Lord great & terrible, & fight for your brethren

### 3. OUR WEAKNESS CAUSES US TO DEPEND UPON GOD:

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#### A. GOD'S STRENGTH IS MANIFEST IN OUR WEAKNESS:

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| 2Cor.4:7     | We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the ... power may be of <u>God</u> , & <u>not</u> of <u>us</u> |
| Isa.40:29    | He giveth power to the <u>faint</u> ; & to them that have no might <u>He</u> increaseth strength              |
| Psa.8:2      | Out of mouth of babes...hast Thou ordained strength   |
| Psa.37:39    | The Lord...is their strength in the time of trouble   |
| Psa.73:26    | My flesh & my heart faileth: but God is [my] strength   |
| Isa.25:4     | Thou (art) a strength to...the needy in his distress  |
| Isa.41:10    | I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee   |
| 2Cor.1:8,9   | We were pressed out of measure, above strength...but we (do) not trust in ourselves, but in God               |
| 2Cor.12:9,10 | "My strength is made perfect in (your) weakness"... When I am weak, then am I strong                          |
| 2Cor.13:4    | We are weak in Him, but we shall live...by power of God   |
| Heb.11:34    | [Bible saints:] Out of weakness were made strong<br>(See Psa.94:17,18)  |

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#### B. WHEN YOU HAVE NO OTHER HELP, HE'LL STRENGTHEN YOU:

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| Psa.72:12    | He shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, & him that hath no helper                               |
| Lk.22:43,45  | [Jesus' disciples slept, but] an angel (came) from Heaven, strengthening Him                                      |
| 2Tim.4:16,17 | No man stood with me, but all men forsook me... the Lord stood with me, & strengthened me<br>(See also Psa.27:10) |

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#### C. HE WILL GIVE STRENGTH DAY BY DAY TO KEEP YOU GOING:

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| Deut.33:25b | As thy days, so shall thy strength be  |
| Mat.6:34    | Take no thought for the morrow...sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof |

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#### D. WHEN YOU HAVE ONLY LITTLE STRENGTH, THE LORD WILL HELP YOU:

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| Psa.37:24 | Though he fall...the Lord upholdeth him with His hand   |
| Isa.35:4  | Say to them that are of a fearful heart, "Be strong"    |
| Dan.11:34 | When they fall, they shall be holpen with a little help |
| Rev.3:8   | Thou hast a little strength, & hast kept My Word        |

#### 4. GOD CAN STRENGTHEN & USE YOU:

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##### A. HOW TO RECEIVE GOD'S POWER:

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| Josh.1:5-9 | Only be thou strong & very courageous...observe the (Word)... <u>then</u> thou shalt have good success                        |
| 2Chr.16:9  | The Lord (shews) Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him                                       |
| Neh.8:10   | The joy of the Lord is your strength  |
| Psa.138:3  | When I cried Thou...strengthenedst me with strength   |
| Isa.27:5   | Let him take <u>hold</u> of My strength   |
| Isa.30:15  | In <u>quietness</u> & in <u>confidence</u> (faith) shall be your strength   |
| Isa.40:31  | They that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength Dan.11:32 People that do <u>know</u> God shall be strong, & do exploits |
| Mic.3:8    | I am full of power by the Spirit of the Lord...& of might   |
| Acts 1:8   | Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you  |
| Eph.3:16S  | trenghened with might by His Spirit in the inner man  |
| 1Jn.2:14a  | Ye are strong [because] the Word of God abideth in you  |

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##### B. HE STRENGTHENS YOU WITH HIS POWER:

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| Psa.18:29-34 | It is <u>God</u> that girdeth me with strength   |
| Psa.68:28    | Thy <u>God</u> hath commanded thy strength   |
| Psa.68:35    | God...giveth strength & power unto His people  |
| Psa.71:16a   | I will go in the strength of the Lord God  |
| Psa.80:17    | Let Thy hand be upon the man...whom Thou madest strong for Thyself   |
| Psa.84:5,7   | Blessed is the man whose strength is in <u>Thee</u> ...they go from strength to strength                       |
| Phi.4:13     | I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me  |
| Col.1:11     | Strengthened with all might, (by) His glorious power   |
| Mat.10:1,8   | He gave (His disciples) power against unclean spirits<br>(See also Judg.14:6,19; 15:14,15; Psa.8:2; Lk.10:19.) |

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##### C. PRAISE GOD FOR STRENGTHENING YOU:

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| Psa.28:7,8 | The Lord is my strength...I am helped...with my song will I praise Him |
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##### D. GIVE GOD THE GLORY FOR WORKING THROUGH YOU:

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| Phi.2:13     | For it is <u>God</u> which worketh <u>in</u> you   |
| 1Pet.4:11    | Let him do it as of the ability which <u>God</u> giveth: that God in all things may be glorified                       |
| Isa.10:13,15 | [Proud] saith, "By (my) strength...I have done it." Shall the <u>axe</u> boast itself against him that <u>heweth</u> ? |

Jer.9:23,24 Let not...the mighty man glory in his might...but glory in this, that he knoweth Me  
Acts 12:21-23 The angel of the Lord smote (Herod), because he gave not God the glory

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#### E. SOMETIMES THE LORD HIMSELF WANTS TO DO THE WHOLE THING:

Exo.14:13,14 Stand still, & see the salvation of the Lord...Lord shall fight for you, & ye shall hold your peace  
Judg.7:all [Gideon & his 300 let God fight the battle His way]  
2Chr.20:15 Be not afraid...the battle is not yours, but God's  
2Chr.20:17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: stand ye still, & see the salvation of the Lord  
Neh.4:20 Our God shall fight for us  
Psa.18:17 He delivered me from my strong enemy...for they were too strong for me  
Isa.30:7 Their strength is to sit still

#### 5. DON'T TRUST IN YOURSELF:

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##### A. WARNINGS AGAINST TRUSTING IN YOUR OWN STRENGTH:

Psa.52:5-7a God shall destroy...the man that made not God his strength  
Psa.118:8,9 It is better to trust in the Lord than...in man  
Psa.146:3 Put not your trust in...princes, nor in...men, in whom there is no help  
Jer.9:23,24 Let not...the mighty man glory in his might...but glory... that he knoweth Me, that I am the Lord  
Jer.17:5 Cursed be man that trusteth in man, & maketh flesh his arm, & whose heart departeth from the Lord  
Jn.15:4,5 Without Me ye can do nothing  
(See also Isa.31:3)

##### B. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU RELY ON YOUR OWN STRENGTH & PLANS:

2Chr.26:16 When he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction: for he transgressed against the Lord  
Hos.10:13 Ye have reaped iniquity...because thou didst trust in thy way, in the multitude of thy mighty men  
1Cor.10:12 Him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall  
(See also 1Sam.15:1-28; 28:4-25 & 31:1-8 re: Saul.)

##### C. HE WILL DELIBERATELY LET YOU FAIL:

Lev.26:18-20 If ye will not...hearken...I will break your power...your strength shall be spent in vain  
Num.14:41-45 Go not up, for the Lord is not among you...but they presumed to go up [to battle, & were smitten]

2Chr.16:7            Because thou relied on the king of Syria, & not on the Lord...the host (is) escaped out of thine hand  
(See also 2Chr.25:7,8)

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#### D. LACK OF STRENGTH OFTEN DUE TO SIN:

Psa.31:10            My strength faileth because of mine iniquity  
Lev.26:27,36,        I will send a faintness into (your) hearts...& ye shall  
                          37        have no power to stand before your enemies  
Josh.7:12            (They) could not stand before their enemies...because they were accursed  
Judg.2:13-15        They forsook the Lord...(His) anger was against Israel ...they could not stand before their enemies  
(See also Amos 2:13-15)

### 6. POWER WHEN WITNESSING:

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#### A. POWER COMES FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT:

Acts 1:8            Ye shall receive power (when) the Holy Ghost is come upon you: & ye shall be witnesses  
Mic.3:8            I am full of power by the Spirit of the Lord...to declare to Israel his sin  
Jn.6:63            It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing  
Acts 4:8,13        Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost...they saw the boldness of Peter  
Acts 4:31,33        They were filled with the Holy Ghost...& with great power gave the apostles witness  
1Thes.1:5            For our gospel came unto you...in power  
2Tim.1:7            God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power

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#### B. NO MAN CAN STAND UP TO THE POWER OF GOD'S SPIRIT:

Lk.21:15            I will give you a mouth...which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay  
(contradict) nor resist  
Jer.5:14            I will make My Words in thy mouth fire, & people wood  
Acts 6:10            They were not able to resist the wisdom & the spirit by which he (Stephen) spake  
2Cor.10:4          The weapons of our warfare are...mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds

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#### C. IT HAS TO BE BY GOD'S POWER:

1Cor.1:18            The preaching of the cross...is the power of God  
1Cor.2:4,5          My preaching was...in...the Spirit & power: That your faith should...stand...in the power of God  
1Cor.4:20            The Kingdom of God is not in word, but in power  
(See also Lk.4:14)

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#### D. GOD CAN USE YOU EVEN WHEN YOU'RE WEAK:

Gal.4:13,14 [Paul witnessed to & won the Galatians even though suffering infirmity in the flesh]

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#### E. GOD CAN TAKE OVER & POWERFULLY USE YOU:

Exo.4:10-12 I am not eloquent...I am slow of speech. The Lord said, "I will be with thy mouth, & teach thee"

Jer.1:6-9 I cannot speak. Lord said, "Whatsoever I command thee ...speak. I have put My Words in thy mouth"

Mat.10:20 For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit...which speaketh in you (See also Mk.13:11; Lk.12:12.)

Acts 4:13 They...perceived (Peter & John) were...ignorant men, they took knowledge...that they had been with Jesus  
(See also 1Sam.10:6)

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### 7. GOD'S POWER VS. YOUR ADVERSARIES' PHYSICAL POWER:

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#### A. FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL BATTLES, DEFENDING THE FAITH:

Jude 3b Ye should earnestly contend for the faith

2Cor.10:3-5 We do not war after (in) the flesh: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God  
(See also 1Cor.10:11)

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#### B. IF YOU MUST PHYSICALLY DEFEND YOUR LOVED ONES OR COUNTRY:

Lk.11:21 When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace

Jn.10:11 The good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep

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#### C. FLESHLY "MIGHT" IS NO MATCH FOR THE POWER OF GOD:

1Sam.17:45 Thou (Goliath) comest to me with a sword, & with a spear...but I come to thee in the name of the Lord

2Chr.32:8 With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the Lord to help us, & to fight our battles

Psa.9:19,20 Lord, let not man prevail...put them in fear: that (they) may know themselves to be but men

Isa.31:3 The Egyptians are men & not God...when the Lord shall stretch out His hand...they all shall fail  
(See also Hos.1:7)

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D. THEY MAY SEEM STRONG, BUT THEIR STRENGTH HAS DEPARTED:

Num.14:9 Neither fear the people...for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them  
Jer.46:17 Pharaoh king of Egypt is but a noise; he hath passed the time appointed [his time is up]

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E. GOD DECIDES THE OUTCOME, NOT PHYSICAL, CARNAL MIGHT:

1Sam.2:4 The bows of the mighty men are broken, [whereas] they that stumbled are girded with strength  
2Chr.25:8 God hath power to help, & to cast down  
Psa.33:16 There is no king saved by the multitude of an host: a mighty man is not delivered by much strength  
Psa.33:17 An horse is a vain thing for safety: neither shall he deliver any by his great strength  
Psa.35:10 The Lord deliverest the poor from him that is too strong for him  
Psa.44:3-7 They got not the land...by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them: but Thy arm

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F. YOU ARE NOT TO TRUST IN FLESHLY MIGHT TO FIGHT YOUR FOES:

2Ki.18:21 Thou trusteth upon...this bruised reed...on which if a man lean, it will (pierce) his hand  
Psa.44:5,6 Through Thee will we push down our enemies: I will not trust in...my sword (to) save me  
Isa.31:1 Woe to them that go to Egypt for help...because they are very strong; but look not unto...the Lord

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G. YOU ARE NOT TO FEAR THE POWER OF MAN:

Deut.3:22 Ye shall not fear them: the Lord shall fight for you  
Psa.27:1-3 Of whom shall I be afraid? Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear  
Psa.118:6 The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?  
Pro.29:25 The fear of man bringeth a snare  
Isa.2:22 Cease (fearing) man, whose breath is in his nostrils  
Isa.51:12,13 (Why) art thou...afraid of a man that shall die...as grass; & forgettest the Lord thy Maker  
Jer.1:8 Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord  
Lk.12:4,5 Be not afraid of them that kill the body

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H. GOD IS ON YOUR SIDE & YOU SHALL WIN:

Deut.20:1 When thou goest out to battle against thine enemies, be not afraid...for the Lord thy God is with thee  
Deut.20:4 Lord [will] fight...against your enemies, to save you  
Deut.31:8 The Lord...doth go before thee; He will be with thee  
1Sam.17:47 Battle is the Lord's, He will give you into our hands



Psa.108:13 Through God we shall do valiantly: for He it is that shall tread down our enemies  
Rom.8:31 If God be for us, who can be against us?  
(See also 2Chr.14:11,12; 20:12-25; Zeph.3:17.)

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#### I. THE ARMIES OF HEAVEN ARE ON YOUR SIDE:

2Ki.6:14-17 [Elisha said,] They that be with us are more than they that be with them  
2Chr.32:7,8,21 [Hezekiah said,] There be more with us than with him  
Mat.26:52,53 [God would] give Me more than 12 legions of angels  
(See also Josh.5:13,14; Psa.68:17; 91:11; Isa.37:33-36.)

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#### J. YOU BECOME FAR MORE POWERFUL THAN YOUR ADVERSARIES:

1Jn.4:4 Greater is He that is in you, than he...in the world  
Josh.1:5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee  
Josh.23:9,10 One shall chase a thousand, for God fighteth for you  
(See also Deut.11:25; 28:7.)

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#### K. GOD CAN HELP YOU WIN AGAINST OVERWHELMING ODDS:

1Sam.14:6 No restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few  
2Chr.14:11 Lord, it is nothing with Thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no  
power  
2Chr.16:8,9a A huge host...because thou didst rely on the Lord, He delivered them into thine hand