

BOLD AS A LION

Part 3

2 Peter 1:1-4 AMPC

1 *Simon Peter, a servant and apostle (special messenger) of Jesus Christ, to those who have received (obtained an equal privilege of) like precious faith with ourselves in and through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:*

2 *May grace (God's favor) and peace (which is perfect well-being, all necessary good, all spiritual prosperity, and freedom from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts) be multiplied to you in [the full, personal, precise, and correct] knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.*

3 *For His divine power has bestowed upon us all things that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, through the [full, personal] knowledge of Him Who called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue).*

4 *By means of these He has bestowed on us His precious and exceedingly great promises, so that through them you may escape [by flight] from the moral decay (rottenness and corruption) that is in the world because of covetousness (lust and greed), and become sharers (partakers) of the divine nature.*

Righteousness is: a right standing with God or doing what is right in the sight of God according to HIS WORD. This is speaking about divine nature, a nature change. Having the nature of God and doing what He said we can do take a hold of us and be us. Righteousness will give us the ability to stand before God without guilt shame, condemnation or any sense of unworthiness.

John 1:1 AMPC

1 In the beginning [before all time] was the Word (Christ), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God Himself.

Proverbs 28:1 KJV

*The wicked flee when no man pursueth: **but the righteous are bold as a lion.***

Why are they bold?

2 Peter 1:1-4 AMPC

*1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle (special messenger) of Jesus Christ, to those who have **received (obtained an equal privilege of) like precious faith with ourselves in and through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ.***

In part 2 of this series we learned about Elisha in 2 Kings 6:15...

Q. The Syrian army is coming after Elisha, why?

A. They were coming after him because he was telling secrets to Israel's army about how the Syrian army was going to attack them. God's messenger or mouthpiece was informing God's people how the enemy would attack... it angered the enemy so they tried to kill Elisha.

Q. How did Elisha get this information?

A. Through the knowledge given by God... how the enemy attacks.

Q. When the servant, after seeing that the city was surrounded, said to Elisha "Oh no, what should we do?" what was Elisha's response?

A. 2 Kings 6:16... *And he (Elisha) answered, Fear not: Why? Because if you don't cut the fear out you're not going anywhere. You are frozen, you won't think straight, look straight or talk straight. You won't be able to reason anymore like God wants you to. You have to cut the fear off first. Fear and Faith are opposite of each other...you can have both.*

16 And Elisha answered, Fear not for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.

Q. The statement. “Fear not” was based on the knowledge of who?

A. God

2 Kings 6:17 KJV

17 And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

Q. When Elisha prayed to the Lord to open the servant’s eyes, as soon as the servant saw the angels what happened to his fear?

A. It left. The way to get fear out of your life is knowledge of God’s Word. Knowledge will get you back into right standing with God.

Q. What is another way to cast fear out of your life?

A. Perfect love.

1 John 4:18 KJV

18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment.

1 John 4:8 KJV

8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

John 1:1 KJV

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 14:15 KJV

15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Another type of fear we talked about was rejection, fear that you won't be accepted. Rejection foreign righteous, for being obedient to God's Word is not based on inferiority it is based on superiority.

Ephesians 1:3-4 KJV

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

*4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, **that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:***

Q. Joseph was rejected by his brothers but what happened when he finally reunited. What did he say?

A.

Gen 50:20 KJV

20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.

Q. How about Jesus, they rejected Him didn't they? But what does He say in the Gospel of Mark?

A.

Mark 12:10 KJV

*The stone which **the builders rejected** is become the **head of the corner:***

When I was taking my General Contractor's licensing classes - the text/teacher would say you can't do this or that... I would raise my hand and say but I'm doing it.

First he told us that you can't pour concrete after a certain date in Michigan because of the cold and the frost laws on certain class roads (weight restrictions). I told him that you can. I paid \$5 more per yard for chloride, and I put straw on top of the concrete at night. I would pay extra for the small loads to be delivered to abide by the frost laws.

After the first couple of classes I would go back to my boss (Sheldon) and say, “they said I can’t do this or that but, we are doing it”. Sheldon told me I know what they are teaching you, but that’s not what happens out here in real life. What they are teaching you is based on ignorance, they haven’t gone out in the field in a long time or some teachers have never been in the field. So this is dark knowledge. We have already proven it can be done. He would always tell me “the man who sits on the couch and says it can’t be done is right”.

Sheldon said, “are you going to believe me, someone who is doing it, or someone who says it can’t be done?”

Are you getting this? Knowledge from the text book is fine, but it’s limiting. When you couple it with knowledge from God - all things are possible.

Matthew 19:26 KJV

*26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; **but with God all things are possible.***

You and I need to have an aristocratic mindset, child of the King, royalty – acting like it, eating like it (the meat of the Word), knowing what is expected of us as royalty.

Ecclesiastes 8:4 KJV

*4 Where the **word of a king** is, there is Power.*

Job 22:28 KJV

*28 Thou shalt also decree a **thing**, and it shall be established unto thee:*

There’s a condition.....

John 15:7 KJV

*7 **IF ye abide in me, and my words abide in you,** ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.*

Ask what you will after abiding, meditating on, having knowledge of of His Word or His Will and after your will is now HIS will...ask what you will and you are asking His Word or His Promises... then it shall be done unto you.

Micah 4:9 KJV

9 Now why dost thou cry out aloud? is there no king in thee?

Because... **Ecclesiastes 8:4** *where the word of a king is there is power.*

Now, we are going to study conduct, our conduct in this new nature. The Righteousness of God is our nature; it's His DNA coming into us. This nature is there through the Holy Spirit to teach us and show us our conduct in order to align with our new nature. Before we came to Christ we acted differently. *Hopefully we're different now, perfecting, growing.*

When I joined the Air Force, my nature changed. I no longer wanted to go to college to play basketball, I wanted to serve my country, travel, see the world and go to college. But I soon found out that my conduct needed to change in order to get all the benefits of this new nature.

Everything started to change, the way I acted, the way I talked, my way of thinking; it was for the team instead of for me. I was not thinking like my old nature. But, sometimes my conduct needed to be reminded/reprimanded, but over time, my conduct habitually changed and to this day I'm a different man because of it.

Once we are born again, our nature is changed, we are a new creature or creation, a clean slate...we don't have 2 natures you have one or the other. The nature of iniquity or the nature of righteousness. We are the righteousness of God and with that comes some privileges.

2 Corinthians 5:17 AMPC

17 Therefore if any person is [ingrafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is a new creation (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away. Behold, the fresh and new has come!

Some of these privileges are:

- o Answered prayer - His Will and not our own
- o Speaking to mountains - faith of a mustard seed
- o Operating by faith - faith comes by hearing, acts of obedience
- o Peace in your life - doing what is right, knowledge of the Word

2 Peter 1:2-3 AMPC

*2 May grace (God's favor) and **peace** (which is perfect well-being, all necessary good, all **spiritual prosperity**, and **freedom from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts**) be **multiplied to you in [the full, personal, precise, and correct] knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.***

3 For His divine power has bestowed upon us all things that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, through the [full, personal] knowledge of Him Who called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue).

Lets look at this story about Peter walking on the water...

Matthew 14:22-26 AMPC

22 Then He directed the disciples to get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent away the crowds.

*23 And after He had dismissed the multitudes, **He went up into the hills by Himself to pray.** When it was evening, He was still there alone.*

*24 But the boat was by this time out on the sea, many furlongs [a furlong is one-eighth of a mile] distant from the land, **beaten and tossed by the waves, for the wind was against them.***

25 And in the fourth watch [between 3:00—6:00 a.m.] of the night, Jesus came to them, walking on the sea.

*26 And **when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified** and said, It is a ghost! And **they screamed out with fright.***

Matthew 14:26 KJV

*26 And **when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.***

Let's stop right here. So here's a situation where Jesus is coming to them, coming to their rescue supernaturally. He's coming to them in a way they don't recognize because He is not walking according to the flesh but according to the spirit. (The dark knowledge minds are saying, this is impossible - but with God, **all things** are possible!)

The situation in the natural was causing fear or torment but, they screamed in fear of a supernatural solution coming that they were not familiar with, did not understand. This is BIG!

Romans 8:1 KJV

8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Romans 8:1 AMPC

8 Therefore, [there is] now no condemnation (no adjudging guilty of wrong) for those who are in Christ Jesus, who live [and] walk not after the dictates of the flesh, but after the dictates of the Spirit.

You and I after we are born again, there is no condemnation. Condemnation has to do with accusation, sentencing, feeling of guilt and shame as a result of the life that we lived before.

The reason why is; when you are born again, you have been declared righteous. Righteous is also a legal word that means acquitted. It means you have been declared just like you never did it. So now, you and I have to walk in this reality.

The devil is going to accuse you and he's going to try and drag you down. We need to say (through the knowledge of the Word) that my past is all under the blood. I have a clean slate, embrace this new nature!

If you have obligations like child support payments or other things like that, you can't just say that's under the blood. That's a responsibility that the Holy Spirit will help you with, He will prosper you so you can take care of it.

But now, we are the righteousness of God! We are not by ourselves anymore and now we can get help from God who will help supply our needs so we can pay that child support... so we can navigate “things” from our past. Divorce, addictions, financial loss etc.

But, we have to walk/live by faith and not by sight... so how does faith flow?

Romans 10:17 KJV

17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 10:17 AMPC

17 So faith comes by hearing [what is told], and what is heard comes by the preaching [of the message that came from the lips] of Christ (the Messiah Himself).

What we found in 2 Peter Chapter 1, is that faith is established by righteousness. Meaning that the platform of righteousness is what faith is built on. Unless we take righteousness and let it possess us, it's very difficult to walk in the kind of faith that will put you out walking on the water like this.

What we need to realize is that we have been called to operate in the supernatural. You can't get there (in the zone so to speak) if you're feeling unrighteous. So what we have to do is, let go of the old stuff and not let the enemy accuse us or make us feel guilty of the things in the past so we can move in the future.

We have to repent when we sin (act like our old nature), ask for forgiveness and keep moving forward in the plan that God has for us.

What is God's plan for you and I? His plan is for you and I to walk in perfect fellowship and this is found in the Word. Perfect fellowship means there is no division or separation or petition – nothing between you or God – you and God are one. You and I are obedient to His Word.

1 John 4:4 KJV

4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.

When you meditate and meditate and meditate on a scripture, that scripture becomes part of you without you questioning is it real. That's when the revelation of that scripture comes through.

The first thing that Jesus did before this act of the supernatural is He went up to pray. Prayer is not just some scattered buck shot. You're not just mumbling some words that you don't mean. Prayer is us communicating with God. See, we are praying in line with the will of God, His Word – we are communicating with God. You have to have knowledge of His Word to pray His Word.

We, you and I, are interesting people. We get down on our knees to pray but we don't wait long enough to get an answer. We just get up and run back to what we think we should do.

The first time I heard God's voice or that He spoke to me in a tangible way, it was incredible. I had been praying and praying and fasting and fasting for months and I wanted an answer about going into ministry and selling everything that I had.

This was a very serious time in my life. I was leaving a career, way of life, job that I loved and I wanted to make sure it was God telling me to do it. I had prayed for 90 days what way I should go. I had laid out 2 options for myself; MY way or GOD'S way.

One day on the expressway as I was praying "My Way or God's Way", a vehicle swerved right in front of me and on the back of that semi tractor trailer "someone" had written with their finger in the dirt stained door "Do it God's Way". Ever since then, when I've listened to God my life has been blessed (not easy), and I can see the hand of God in the choices that I have made when HE is leading me, when I do His Will.

Everything started to make sense. The talents that HE had given me, the parents that I had, musical abilities, my experiences overseas in the Air Force, memorizing scripture as a child, my passion to help people. I didn't know what it was all for until I finally asked Him and HE told me.

What you need is a Word from God, one Word can change your whole life, because your purpose is revealed and it will all make sense. Your wife, kids, finances, job, talents, passions – it all starts to make sense to you.

If God isn't telling you to move, wait, because it's not time to move. HE's trying to hold you back for that Kairos moment. Jesus was waiting on the Word from God, and when He got the Word He could go walk on water.

When God told Jesus to do anything, He could do it, because it was the will of the Father. His Will is not always easy in the natural. But, God will always give you what you need in abundance...not your wants, but your needs.

What "you want", is the very thing that will take you away from God's Will and Plan and Purpose for your life and leave you wanting for the "things" that God said He would supply - your needs.

Here's Jesus replying to everyone on that boat...

Matthew 14:27-31 KJV

*27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, **Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid***

*28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, **if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.***

Matthew 14:28 AMPC

*28 And Peter answered Him, **Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.***

Why did Peter ask this? **Eccl 8:4 KJV** - *Because where the word of a king is there is power* –if it's of God it will be done.

Matthew 14:29 KJV

*29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, **he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.***

Let's stop right there, Peter is challenging his own potential, (dark knowledge). He's saying if that is you, tell me to come to you on the water. I call that a righteous thought.

It's amazing how unrighteousness destroys initiative, it destroys initiative. In other words, you don't think of anything new, nothing different, you think just like everyone else thinks. We want to make everyone happy about where we are so let's stay right here and play it safe (let's be inferior - don't want people to think I'm superior or different).

What I'm saying is, Peter got out of the boat. He got out of the natural way of thinking. He said I'm coming out of the fear of failure, he said I'm coming out of the comfort zone. I'm coming out of the inferiority complex, **I'm coming out to take that which God said for me to do and have.**

Everyone likes you to be just right where "they" are at, full of fear, playing it safe, no faith, living far below their potential. Don't make them look bad (that's going back to inferiority and superiority).

You can hang around the same friends who might not talk right, maybe do things you don't really agree with and are afraid to change because you don't want to lose their friendship. You are afraid to better yourself or be more righteous, or change your conduct.

But this is what Peter did: he got out of the boat!

What he was doing was manifesting the potential that you and I have in us. Because if you look at the life of Jesus and Jesus was the Righteous One, but He also came to show us and demonstrate to us what a righteous person could do. (Faith without works is dead and you won't have the faith unless you're righteous).

He did supernatural things: He was fearless in the face of storms in Mark 4. When this storm pops up and the disciples who were full of fear said, **“Lord we are going to die, Lord wake up don't you care about us?”** He got up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea in verse 39 **“peace be still.”**

Notice He rebuked the wind first. Why? Because satan was behind the storm and Jesus was master over satan. He was master because He was the Son of God but also as **one who knew His rights as royalty in the Kingdom of God.** You and I are joint heirs with Jesus Christ and have the same rights and privileges as He does - He said so.

Because He knew He was master over the devil and all of his forces, He had no sense of lack of fear. He had perfect fellowship with God, he had no sense of inferiority in the face of death, disease, in the face of demons and He was absolute ruler over the laws of nature. That's what helped enable Him to walk on water. He had no sense of condemnation, shame or guilt. None at all.

Jesus came to show you and I how to do it, not to show you and I that we can't do it...

John 14:12 KJV

12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

What has happened is that the church has turned its back on its mission as a training center for reigning. It has become an entertainment center instead of a training center...**music & experiences over discipleship.**

Think about it, when the people are still immature, people are still getting divorced, partying, drinking, swearing, vulgar, coarse, mocking God's Word about sin, the rapture and fearing getting their bills paid etc, we need to cut that out. That is not acting like royalty, that is not kingdom mentality.

Thinking like Royalty, having a Kingdom mentality or an aristocratic mindset says I can do what Jesus can do. I can be righteous at work and home. I can get not only my bills paid but I can pay yours too.

We need to get away from an entertainment mindset and get back to a training center. This needs to be the place where you come in and you learn what Jesus did and how to do what Jesus did and why Jesus did it.

If you've been going to church your whole life and nothing has changed, you're still the same person, struggling with the same thing, then it's time to do something different, it's time for the nature change. If not, you are living the definition of insanity.

Well how do I know it's not working?

- o Because Christians are still getting divorced
- o Because the youth are turning away from God
- o Because the ungodly in this country are in authority
- o Because Christians have the same addictions as the world
- o Because the church isn't filled with righteousness

If we are not transforming our neighborhoods and our families the church is preaching the wrong message and the world is transforming us.

How long are we going to do nothing?

Psalm 82:1-5 AMPC

1 God stands in the assembly [of the representatives] of God; in the midst of the magistrates or judges He gives judgment [as] among the gods.

2 How long will you [magistrates or judges] judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Selah [pause, and calmly think of that]!

3 Do justice to the weak (poor) and fatherless; maintain the rights of the afflicted and needy.

4 Deliver the poor and needy; rescue them out of the hand of the wicked.

5 [The magistrates and judges] know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in the darkness [of complacent satisfaction]; all the foundations of the earth [the fundamental principles upon which rests the administration of justice] are shaking.

The Word says it's our job. The reason all this is going on is we don't know who we are... The 12 spies (I'll call them preachers) went into Canaan and 10 of them came back and preached something God didn't say. They said "we can't take it" – God didn't say that. God said I'm with you, now go in there and get that land. They said we are like grasshoppers. God said you're more than a conqueror!

Philippians 4:13 KJV

*13 **I can do all things** through Christ which strengtheneth me.*

Let's go back to Matthew 14 –remember Peter's walking on the water right now...

Matthew 14:30-31 AMPC

30 But when he perceived and felt the strong wind, he was frightened, and as he began to sink, he cried out, Lord, save me [from death]!

31 Instantly Jesus reached out His hand and caught and held him, saying to him, O you of little faith, why did you doubt?

There are things in your life that are going to distract you, that will come up and take your eyes off of the Word. Circumstances and people will come up to you to distract you.

People want you to stay down where they are. As long as you are in the boat they won't mess with you, you're not making them feel inferior or guilty. You're not being salt, not agitating.

You're just like everyone else, insane, doing the same thing over and over and not having any power to overcome the storms in your life. But as soon as you take a step out to walk on the water, it means no longer doing what you've always done. The insanity is over.

Revelation comes forth and you see things differently, your conduct has changed and you received a Word from God. That One Word can change your whole life, because your purpose is revealed and it all makes sense. We need to have revelation, a conduct change and it's through the knowledge of HIM.