

10 07 22

Strengthen Pt 1 God strengthens His children

This is our first teaching on the word– strengthen. We establish three points– (i) God strengthens His children because He is with them, (ii) When we cry unto the Lord He strengthens with strength in our soul, (iii) wait on the Lord, be of good courage and He will strengthen your heart.

It is from our search of the scripture that we establish our three points–

1. God strengthens His children because He is with them

Solomon was strengthened in his kingdom – because the Lord was with him
“And Solomon the son of David was strengthened in his kingdom, and the Lord his God was with him, and magnified him exceedingly” (2Chr 1:1).

2. When we cry unto the Lord he answers and strengthens with strength in our soul

“In the day when I cried thou answeredst me, and strengthenedst me [with] strength in my soul” (Ps.138: 3).

3. Wait on God, be of good courage, and he will strengthen thine heart

“Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart:...”
(Ps.27:14). See also Ps.31: 24.

Illustration

Once a minister is strengthened in their ministry many fall due to sins of the flesh or pride. In the US alone the figures are over 50%.

Questions of the scriptures

(i) What/who strengthens us? & (ii) what problems are there in being strengthened?

Answers from the scriptures

i) What/who strengthens us?

Wisdom strengthens the wise more than ten mighty men– Ecc.7: 19– “Wisdom strengtheneth the wise more than ten mighty [men] which are in the city”.

* We are strengthened with **might by His Spirit** in the inner man– Eph.3: 16– “That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man”.

* “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (Phil.4: 13).

* An angel strengthened the Lord Jesus– Lk;22: 43.

* God uses suffering to strengthen us

“But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect...strengthen...” (1 Pet.5: 8).

* Saul fasted for three days and then received food and was strengthened

“And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.[19] And when he had received meat, he was strengthened..” (Acts 9: 9, 19). See also Ps.104:15.

ii) When we strengthen ourselves– we can forsake the Law of the Lord like Rehoboam
“And it came to pass, when Rehoboam had established the kingdom, and had strengthened himself, he forsook the law of the Lord..” (2Chr 12:1)

We can imagine mischief – Hos.7: 13, 15. In which case – God can strengthen the hand of our enemies to chasten us, as He strengthened the king of Moab against Israel because of their sin (Jud.3: 12). Remember, when you feel weak or feeble to call on the Lord who strengthens His children by His Spirit. Amen!