

A PERSONAL NOTE TO OUR READERS: *"The last three months have been, without question, the hardest trials of my life. Many of you know the pain and suffering of losing a loved one. We are finding out first hand the meaning of the Scripture in I Peter 5:10-11, "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, stablish, strengthen, settle you.*

11 To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

We as Bride members are called on to rule and reign on this earth for our Lord, in these flesh bodies and in this very hour. II Tim 2:10-12, "Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

11 It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him:

12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:"

These are hard sayings and the flesh hates the word suffer! Therefore, God has given His Bride the Holy Ghost Token that we may overcome the flesh and the Devil, who is our constant enemy. But thanks be to God, the Devil cannot overpower the Spirit of our God.

This sermon will deal with how our God is producing a great weakness in our natural flesh-man. It has to come because the Word declares that such weakness must always come before spiritual strength!

II Cor. 12:9-10, "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for

THE FAILURE OF HUMAN ABILITY

By C.W. Wood

April 2009

thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong." It is the grace of God that leads us in paths that will produce this weakness, for we would never choose such paths for ourselves! It is in our fallen nature to choose the easy road. "No man ever yet hated his own flesh." (Eph. 5:29)

Having been experiencing this God-produced weakness, I feel led to teach on it as best I can. May the Lord Jesus guide this pen. Thank you, dear Readers, for all your cards and letters and gifts. I read everyone and send my heart-felt thanks to each one of you, though you may not hear by a personal letter. My heart yearns to fellowship with you, but time does not permit, and for now I must speak to you by way of our monthly sermons. I love you."

Br. Wood.

In our last sermon, we spoke of the Real Faith of God that can only come to us from the heart of God, and as *He delivers* it to us as it was once delivered to the Saints (Jude 3). We want to show that our

intellectual believing, although it is most certainly required, does not of itself or by itself bring the miracles that we so desperately need.

The great revelation is that we do not have, and cannot have, the God-kind of Faith until He drops it into our heart. Our problem is that we have tried to use our *human faith*, and by it alone see the miracles that God has promised. I want to examine a most powerful Scripture and use it as our text. Please read in your Bible Mark 9:14-29, the story of a man whose son had a dumb spirit. He brought him to the Disciples and they could not cast out the Devil. Yet, they believed in casting out devils. However, they were having to learn by hard experience (through failure) that it takes more than human faith to cast out devils and heal the sick. The point is that the father of this afflicted child had somewhere along the road received a powerful revelation, one that the Disciples needed to receive and we must also receive.

His conversation with the Lord will bring out this revelation! Jesus said to the father, **"If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."** Now notice carefully the father's answer, **"Lord, I believe, help thou my unbelief."** This was said through tears, and the Lord did not deny that he was a Believer. Truly the man was a Believer! He was a Believer just as many of us are Believers. He, no

doubt, believed that this Jesus was the son of God, Messiah, God in flesh. He no doubt believed that He was Perfect God, Perfect in all His ways, yet in a body like ours!

Do not you and I believe the same thing? Surely, we do. Yet, as this man confessed, we need help with our unbelief. Can we, as this man did, confess that we believe with our human faith, yet we need help to rid ourselves of every last doubt? Have we learned that we cannot use only our human faith and declare a thing done, although we believe in casting out devils and healing the sick? Can we be as honest and sincere as the father of this poor child, and declare that we need that *Gift of Faith* that only God holds? This father had come to the end of human ability, and he knew it. He was ready for some help from the Master, help that he could not produce in himself. He needed that supernatural *Gift of Faith* to be dropped into his heart by the one who is **“The Author and the Finisher of our faith.”** (Heb. 12:2) His struggles to see his son delivered though his human believing had brought him to a place of desperation.

The Grace and Mercy of our Lord has brought some of us today to this same place of desperation! We too have believed, and then struggled to believe harder, yet the answer has not come! Can we believe that the Lord has **“Ordered our steps”** through these times of failure so that He may show us our error? The error is common indeed. It is to suppose that we can manufacture or produce the God-kind of faith in our own heart. The truth is that although we can believe, and must believe with our human faith, we can never produce the Real Faith of God in ourselves. It is Grace that sends it, once we come to the end of our struggles to produce it ourselves. God never requires the impossible from us. He reserves the impossible

for Himself to do! He has given us the ability to believe with our human faith, and with our mind we choose to believe. Then God honors this kind of believing by sending us His reward of supernatural faith.

Examine Heb. 11: 6 with me: **“But without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”** Without the God-kind of Faith coming into our heart, we cannot please Him. He that comes to God must believe with his human faith that He is, *and* that He will eventually honor that *human faith* by sending the reward, which will be His own Supernatural Faith that will bring the answer. Remember, He is the Author and the Finisher of this powerful faith, and it cannot come except as His Grace will deliver it to us.

When the Lord has produced the desired weakness in us concerning the failures of our human faith (ability), He then gives a deep revelation of His Grace which we call faith. The real God-like Faith is Grace alone. Grace and God’s Faith are kinfolks.

QUOTE: PERFECT STRENGTH BY PERFECT WEAKNESS, PAGE 9-10, “When we are insufficient, ourselves, then we are subjects to yield to God’s Spirit. As long as we think that we can do it, then we can’t do it. But when we get to a place where we know we can’t do it, then we yield our self to God and He does it. So then if it’s us trying to do it we’ll fail, but if we’ll just yield ourself to God then God can’t fail. There’s only one thing that God cannot do, and that’s fail. He can do anything else but fail. But, He cannot fail.

So as long as we are trying in ourselves and depending on our own abilities, and so forth, well, we’ll do nothing. But when we get

to a place where we know we’re nothing, then God can use us.” (End of quote)

We pray for God to send us His God-kind of Faith. This is what He *expects* us to do. It’s not that we do not pray until it comes, but we pray for it to come!

CONTINUING QUOTE: “The important thing, one of the important things that we must master. Now remember this, and especially you young preachers, and lay members alike. There’s one thing that we’ve got to master if we expect to fulfill God’s desire in our life, that is, we have to master the thought of *human ability*. If we ever get to a spot where we think that we can do it with our own intelligence and our own abilities, we’ve got to master that in such a way that we can get rid of the thing and lay it aside so that God can use us. That’s right.

And make a complete surrender! We cannot use one ability. We’ve got to make a complete surrender!” (End of quote)

QUOTE: PERFECT STRENGTH, PAGE 10, “No ability, I don’t care whose it is, will never be usable in the sight of God. God has to get all of our abilities out of us before He can achieve His purpose. If He’s got something for us to do, and as long as we feel that we’re doing a pretty job out of it, then we’ll never be able to be used of God. Now, you say, ‘You’re making an awful broad statement there, Brother Branham.’ And that—that is a broad one, but just look around and find out if whether it’s right or not.

Look around today at all of our great achievement we think we’ve done, and where is Christianity in United States? Look at all of our churches and denominations, and our evangelists and healing campaigns, and everything else we’ve had, and what is it? Worse than it ever was in the beginning! It’s worse off today

that it ever was, because that we have tried to do it in human ability.” (End of quote)

QUOTE: PERFECT STRENGTH, PAGE 11, “Then God can achieve His purpose by sending...not a revival, but, Brother, what He needs to do first is, send a killing, that’s right, so we can revive. You have to die before you can be born again, and you have to...He needs a killing of ourselves. This Tabernacle needs a killing, and me with it. All of us, we need a—killing so that we can be revived in a new life, a new hold, a new hope, a new experience. We need first a day of mourning. We need a place of yielding to the Spirit instead of so much depending upon schooling and upon our programs, and we...our campaigning and all that we have. We rely upon cooperation with so many different ministers to cooperate. We allow so many.... ‘If we can’t get so many, why, we won’t do it. We won’t go to the cities without that.’ And then, when we do that, we’re making it in a great big machine that’s got a carbon knock in it, see.

So we got to get away from that, that human ability. We got to get to a place where we can surrender our souls and lives, even to the housewife, to the farmer, to the mechanic, or whoever we are, we got to surrender completely to God and know that “we are nothing.” Then let God start from there. Then He starts moving. Working. And that includes all of us, everyone. That’s the—the thing that we got to do.” (End of quote)

These are the words of a mighty Prophet, who was speaking from experience! He went through a time of mourning that no man can understand unless he has been there. The Lord took his wife and baby daughter, and this produced such grief and sorrow, that except for God, he would have given up. But, Grace

prevented him, and out of such terrible weakness came strength and faith in Grace such as is seldom seen on Earth! That same Grace is holding some Bride members up in these last hours. The message to you and I is, “Be not dismayed.” The Lord is only showing us our helplessness, our human weakness, and the failure of human ability. This He must do in order that He may cause us to turn to Him in fervent prayer, asking for His Faith to be sent that brings the miracles. This is so He may finish the Bride Revival. We have groaned and struggled to believe the thing done without the Faith of God having been delivered to us. It takes the Faith of God, and He must send it. It is not our mental ability to claim the work is done. To believe “in God” is one thing, but to have the God-kind of Faith delivered to our heart is quite another thing. God requires both the mechanics and the dynamics!

It is easier to call on the Lord and ask Him for His Faith, than to try and manufacture working faith in our own heart. We cannot do the impossible, but our Lord greatly desired to do it for us.

Br. Branham’s parable about the two Cadillacs is a master piece. It explains in worldly terms exactly what the Lord wants us to see concerning the difference between human faith and God’s Faith.

QUOTE: IT IS THE RISING OF THE SUN, PAGES 16-17, “But now, for instance, what if we were going to go back to Tucson this afternoon (now) and each one of us had a—was going to go in a big Cadillac, brand new; and all of the seats were made out of—of doeskin (softest of the leather, soft and easy to sit it); and the floorboards were plush; the steering wheels were nickel-plated and had diamond studs all over it; and the engine was mechanically tested to be exactly the right engine; and the wheels were—

-all had bearing and greased up; and the tires were all puncture-proof and blow-out free, all been tested scientifically. They had been pushed off the assembly line, both of them, and both of them filled up with gasoline. That’s the running power, the gasoline, because in it is the octane. But now, when you’re going to start them, although both of them look just alike, but there’s one of them don’t have any spark—any firing power.

“Well,” you say, “the power is in the gasoline, Brother Branham.” But I don’t care how much power is in the gasoline, unless there’s a spark there to manifest that power, less there’s a power there to confirm that that’s gasoline, it just might as well be water.

Until ... no matter how much theologians claim, how well you got your church set, how much education you got, how much like the Bible, until that wave Sheaf, until the Holy Spirit comes upon that person to quicken that Word (the gasoline represents the Word: It’s the Truth); but without the Spirit it won’t move!

CONTINUING QUOTE: PAGE 12, “We’ve put too much stress on the mechanics and nothing on the dynamics. It needs the dynamic power of God, the Resurrection power of Jesus Christ upon the Church to manifest and to bring to pass that this is *gasoline*! It might be in a gasoline can; it could still be water. See? But they only proof of it is put the Life on it, and it’ll prove whether it’s gasoline or not.

CONTINUING QUOTE: PAGE 17, “There was the first Sheaf come up from all the prophets which was the Son of God, the King of all prophets. There has been churches, churches, brides, brides, churches, brides, brides, but there’s got to come One! Hallelujah! There has to come a real Bride! There must come One that’s not only got the mechanics, but

the Dynamics of It, makes that Church live, move in the power of His Resurrection. Until we come to that place, until we find that place, what good does it do to polish the hubs? What good does it do to give her a face-lifting or a simonize job, when there's no Dynamics in it? No matter how much the mechanics prove to be right, there's got to be a Dynamics to make it work.

PAGE 18, "That's the Easter Message: The Dynamics and the mechanics together. The mechanics without the Dynamics, no good, neither is the Dynamics without the mechanics. You can scream and shout and jump up and down all you want to, and deny this Word; it won't do any good. You're just cranking around the—pistons of—got spark there to fire, but no gasoline to fire it by. They only work as they come together. Amen! So one will set still and the other one'll go up; that's the only thing there is to it. Yet they both might look like, both claim to be churches, both claim to be brides, but one has

mechanics and Dynamics. It brings it to pass. But what He said is the Truth.

It just won't move, no matter how good the mechanics is, until the Dynamics come. When the Dynamics come, that Fire is made to connect with that octane in the gasoline. And when that explodes it, it causes a combustion, and that combustion moves every motion, every move, for He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. That's the resurrection; that's the real Power of God—mechanics with the Dynamics.

Notice, it's the Spirit that quickens; it's the—It's the spark that fires. It's not the gas that fires; it's the spark that fires the gas. See? "You can do nothing without Me, but with Me you can do all things." (End of quote)

To those who continue to give money for the publishing work, even though you do no longer receive a personal note of thanks from me, I want to say from the bottom of my heart how we love and appreciate

you. What ever good the Lord may be able to bring forth from our work here, you will have a definite part in it. With all my heart I believe that the work God has given the Bride to do is just about over. Our president has denied that we are a Christian nation (Hal Lindsey Report). He has warned Israel not to attack Iran, even though their president has openly stated that he will soon attempt to destroy Israel. Our president has also openly declared that he will force Israel to give the Golan Heights back to the Palestinians. This would be giving Iran an open door through which to attack Israel. We know what will happen to the nations (plural) when they attempt this. It will erupt into Armageddon and before that happens; there will be a Resurrection and Rapture. God bless you all and help us all to look up hourly, keeping our eyes open looking for the Resurrected Saints that will come up from the graves!

Br. Wood

VISIT OUR WEB SITE (COURTESY OF BR. J.T. HISE): www.dewitttabernacle.org.

**OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS:
DEWITT-TABERNACLE@centurytel.net**

**OUR MAILING ADDRESS:
103 WEST 6TH ST. – DEWITT, AR**

ATTENTION: For our readers in AFRICA who would like to receive the DEWITT TABERNACLE TEACHING SERIES or books FREE OF CHARGE,

PLEASE SEND YOUR REQUEST TO:

**BR. INNOCENT UBI
THE CAPSTONE MINISTRY
BAMENDA
CAMEROON
AFRICA**

ATTENTION: For our readers in AFRICA who would like to receive the DEWITT TABERNACLE TEACHING SERIES or books FREE OF CHARGE,

PLEASE SEND YOUR REQUEST TO:

**BR. BRIAN MUKOSHA
P.O. BOX 660189
MONZE
ZAMBIA
AFRICA**

ATTENTION: For our readers in INDIA who would like to receive the DEWITT TABERNACLE TEACHING SERIES or books FREE OF CHARGE,

PLEASE SEND YOUR REQUEST TO:

**BR. JOSEPH FERNANDES
11, ARUM PATIL NIWAS
NEHRU NAGAR,
KANJURMARG (E)
MUMBAI-400042
INDIA**