

God Gives Overcoming Help

Shalom,

But you, Israel, My servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, My friend; you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, “You are My servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off”; fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41:8-10 ESV)

Our Torah portion for this week is found in **Genesis 32:4—36:43**. It is called **Vayishlach** in the Hebrew Scriptures, and is translated, “**And he sent.**” This is the account of Jacob returning to the land of his inheritance after having been in Paddanaram for twenty years, separated from his mother and father and the land of blessing that had been promised to him after God spoke to him that it was time for him to go back up to take his promised inheritance.

After Ya'akov arrived from Paddan-Aram, God appeared to him again and blessed him. God said to him, “Your name is Ya'akov, but you will be called Ya'akov no longer; your name will be Isra'el.” Thus He named him Isra'el. ¹¹ God further said to him, “I am El Shaddai. Be fruitful and multiply. A nation, indeed a group of nations, will come from you; kings will be descended from you. (A: vi) Moreover, the land which I gave to Avraham and Yitz'chak I will give to you, and I will give the land to your descendants after you.” (Genesis 35:9-12 CJB)

For in Him all the promises of God are “Yes.” Therefore also through Him is the “Amen” by us, to the glory of God. (2 Corinthians 1:20 TLV)

When God makes a promise, His Word, which is absolute truth, is established. It is already ours and will come to pass if we choose to trust. That choice positions us to receive God’s promises.

...for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. (Romans 11:29 TLV)

Let us fear then! Though a promise of entering His rest is left open, some of you would seem to have fallen short. For we also have had Good News proclaimed to us, just as they did. But the Word they heard did not help them, because they were not unified with those who listened in faith. ³ For we who have trusted are entering into that rest. (Hebrews 4:1-3 TLV)

Fear is the primary tool that the enemy uses to thwart trusting because, when we choose to fear, we choose not to trust. Think how many times Yeshua commanded us to “Fear not!” He was always encouraging people to trust, because when we choose to trust, we defeat the power of fear.

When Jacob came back to the land of Israel, He was overcome with fear, and it was not just because of natural things that had occurred, nor just because he had wronged his brother. The devil attacks with loud and lying accusations that can cause us to focus on totally hopeless and terrifying possibilities. Jacob was moved with fear and, though he made his own plans to protect

his family, he was left with a sense of desolation. In the midst of his darkness, God's presence, in a completely unexpected way, revealed Jacob's own ineffectiveness, but also worked in a supernatural manifestation to show His willingness to strengthen and sustain according to His promises and grace.

So Jacob remained all by himself. Then a Man wrestled with him until the break of dawn. ²⁶ When He saw that He had not overcome him, He struck the socket of his hip, so He dislocated the socket of Jacob's hip when He wrestled with him. (Genesis 32:25-26 TLV)

We can see that Jacob had had to learn that taking actions driven by fear cannot prosper, and he began to understand that God's strength is not limited when we are weak. I believe that it was Jesus, in a pre-incarnate appearance, Who wrestled **along with** Jacob, taking hold with him **against the fear** that results when a person has nothing to depend on but natural ability.

In the same way, the Ruach helps in our weakness. For we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Ruach Himself intercedes for us with groans too deep for words. (Romans 8:26 TLV)

The word for "helps" in the preceding verse is a Greek term, *synantilambanomai*; which means "to take hold of opposite together, i.e. co-operate (assist): — help". I like to rephrase it like this: **to take hold together against**, for that is exactly how the Lord works in us if we trust Him.

...but He told me, "My grace is enough for you, for My power is brought to perfection in weakness." Therefore, I am very happy to boast about my weaknesses, in order that the Messiah's power will rest upon me. (2 Corinthians 12:9 CJB)

The devil maneuvers to expose our weaknesses. He will defeat us and leave us without hope or purpose, if we rely on the flesh and allow fear, which is the opposite of faith, to have dominion over us, but God will always give us victory over Satan if we let Him work with (help) us, choose to trust, and cast down fear. In the power of the spirit, we will triumph over all the power of darkness and **gain the victory over all the works of the flesh**.

Maybe you can really identify with what Jacob was feeling before he was helped by God to become an overcomer. Lay down your own planning and fearful reasoning. **Just trust!** Quit expending effort striving for natural solutions. **Just trust.**

The new creation reality is that, when believers receive the immersion in the power of God as we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we not only are equipped to conquer the wiles of the devil, but to gain victory over the flesh-nature and its inherent weaknesses so that our life may be complete in the anointing of Jesus to bring about His plan to subdue the earth with yoke-destroying, burden-lifting love.

Trusting only in Him,
Terry