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More on Power

Power. It seems to be in most of the New Testament books. Not over used, but well used.

Another major place with great truth about it is Ephesians 6: 10. “Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.”

That is the introduction verse to what we normally call “The Armor of God Passage.” I believe that it is very important that we look at the entire passage to get the connection with the word “power” as well as what the exact teaching is.

Ephesians 6: 10 – 18

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, which which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. And praying in Greenvine in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.”

1 Peter 5: 8 & 9 says, “Be self controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith.”

Both of these passages are so connected. They talk about the real battle here on the earth as we live our lives for God. Our real battle is against powers that we cannot even begin to handle on our own.

If we look at the passage in Ephesians, we are not only drawn to the weaponry and it’s use, but also that that weaponry and protection is from God. We cannot produce it on our own. It is a gracious provision of God on behalf of all who have trusted Christ as their savior, and are wanting to follow Him with all aspects of life.

Once again, it is not a battle that we can even begin to fight with our own hands and weapons that mankind can produce. It is a battle much too strong for us to take on. In our battles and wars here on earth, we can produce great weaponry that can overcome any enemy; except in the spiritual realm. We must take advantage of what God has provided for us in this extra-earthly battle. When we battle the devil himself, we can not on our own defeat him. He is much too strong. Much too evil. Much too cunning for us to simply think that we could conquer him on our own. We can’t even gather others around us to defeat him. It is a spiritual battle that we can have confidence in only if we fight with the armor and weaponry that God supplies.

All this defensive armor is for our protection and is provided by God. There is a responsibility for us to know and use His Word; but even that is provided by Him. What a gracious God who gives us all we need.

Remember the first “Power” newsletter? 2 Peter 1: 3. “His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness.”

That power that saves us also provides for us and protects us. God at work in all aspects of the life that we live here on earth.

I know that I am surely thankful for His gracious provisions of protection and weaponry. As I grow older I am becoming well aware that my best and most powerful knowledge and strength is wrapped up in reading His Word, knowing what it says and applying it to my life; then passing it on to others, especially to those in family, both physical and spiritual. And also to pray more.

As you well know, just the prayer requests from Greenvine Baptist Church continues to lengthen. We must be on our knees in both worship and prayer as we live our lives in favor with God.

It is no wonder that Paul says concerning prayer: “pray without ceasing.” Continue to pray. Continue to read God’s Word. Continue to apply His loving principles and follow His leading. Allow the Spirit of God to direct your thoughts and hearts as you continue to trust Him.

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.

Love to all. Enjoy thanksgiving. Be thankful.

Karen and I are so thankful for you all.

Upcoming Events

Bible Study

There will be no bible study this week. We will continue our study of Timothy the Wednesday December 1st.

Christmas Brunch

We will meet at 9:30am on Sunday December 12 for brunch. We will not be cooking in the kitchen so please bring you dish hot to share.

Greenvine's Girl's of Grace

On Tuesday Dec 14th The Women will be making bags to take to our shut-ins . You can help by bringing items for the bags such as:

- Toothpaste and brushes
- Combs
- Hankerchiefs
- Puzzle Books
- Fuzzy Socks
- Hard Candies
- Cookies
- Snack Crackers

We will be meeting at Sandra's house at 6pm on Tuesday Dec 14 to assemble the bags.

Toy Drive

Burton Bridge is collecting gently used blankets and comforters, new unwrapped toys and condiments for the advent bundles. Please drop off donations at the church

Christmas Eve Service

Candlelight service – 6pm on Christmas Eve

Prayer Requests

Jack and Karen's Nephew - Pray that he will listen to the Doctors and to his mother

Karen – Praise that her wrist is doing better and that she continues to heal

Pat Ahlhardt has not been feeling

Brayden Lopez - Mental and Spiritual health

Please remember the Chapdelaine family in the loss of Robert

Debbie Reed - Recovery on her wrist and hip - Pray that the injections for her hip will help with the pain

Cliff Reed -Recovering from Back Surgery - Please pray his pain subsides

Please keep Becky and the Medellin family in your prayers for the loss of Juan

Brittany's mother Tracy for continued healing

Please pray for Becky and her family in the loss of her son in law Jaun Medellin

Ricky Eckert recovering from a leg amputation.

Neal Lampe has come home. Please pray for continued healing

Please remember Linda Fogle and her family in the loss of Rick

Carolyn Cox -Pray for continued healing

Geri Smart's daughter as she continues to battle cancer. She had her last Chemo treatment – What a praise

Denny's Sister is in need of a Kidney Transplant

Becky's granddaughter Taylor who has Cystic Fibrosis and is having health issues

Oran Lambright, Jack and Karen's friend has come home and is recovering

Ray and Bev Morris - Bev and been diagnosed with Alzheimers

Sandra Carson's daughter Candace is having some mental health issues

Bob & Sadie Easley - Health issues - Please remember Bob's family in the loss of his brother

Ed Ehring's sister Julie Robison is suffering from Alzheimer's.

Lee Ehring's brother, Bill Hoot, is having health issues. Doctors have found a mass on his lungs but the biopsy results have not been received yet. He has lost his vision and is unable to talk. Please pray that the Doctors can find out what is happening and how to treat him. He is in a tremendous amount of pain

Vicky Hoffman - legally blind but her eyes are getting worse