

Two Gauges of God's Power

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Hello! This is Dorothy -

Have you ever thought about what is *the normal Christian life*? “Well,” you say, “perhaps it is, you know, trying to be good and turning out at church and being with nice people and not doing bad things.” No. All those things are all right, but the main thing is the normal Christian life is all about Jesus and all that God is able to do in and through us by His resurrection life. Perhaps you do not know much about this resurrection life. Perhaps it is to you all that has to do with one day called Easter, but after that, it has nothing to do with right now. You think, “After all, we got over that on the church calendar or perhaps I never really understood it, because people kept giving me Easter eggs and, after all, I really love chocolate! So why would I be concerned too much about the thought behind anything of this subject?” The normal Christian life is a life that has been purchased by the Lord Jesus Christ. It is a life that had been made available to the indwelling of His Holy Spirit, Christ's Other Self, to live within us. That is not only the normal Christian life for the individual, but as far as the Church is concerned, it is a collection of those who also love and know the Lord Jesus Christ and it is all around Jesus. So, when we meet together, it is not just a question of saying, “Well, are you going to go to this and what did you think about the pastor or what do you think of that

denomination?” It is talking about the Lord Jesus.

The Bible has two standards, like two gauges, by which God’s power is gauged. In the Old Testament, God tells His people Israel that the extent of His power is according to the power by which He brought them out of Egypt. Always, you will see that referral back to Egypt. For example, **Micah 7:15** reads - **According to the days of thy coming out of Egypt will I show unto him marvelous things.** In the New Testament, the unit of measurement of God’s power is found in **Ephesians 1**. So we have the Old Testament of God showing His power. Then in the New Testament, in these verses we read -

19 . . . according to the working of his mighty power,
20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,
21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:
22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,
23 Which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.

So what we are talking about is that we see this mighty deliverance in the Old Testament. Always, God refers to this when He brought out His people from bondage (slavery) and into liberty and victory and

deliverance, with which you and I, coming to Christ, can identify. Because we were bound by Satan, though we did not realize it as it was not necessarily seen in things we did, our life was held by the enemy of this world. When we are brought into Christ, when we are delivered, when we are saved, the exciting thing is that, then, God would show us the resurrection power that can be ours in Christ Jesus! This power is not just referring to what happened to Christ; it is a power for you and for me.

The connection of this passage in **Ephesians** with that of **Philippians 3:10** gives you and me the promise and assurance, if we are in Christ, not only of present power and victory, but also future glorification. In **Philippians 3:10**, we read this wonderful little verse. It says: **That I may know him - that is Christ Jesus - and the power of his resurrection . . .** Are you longing, as a child of God, to know the power of His resurrection? Are you wanting that it should be all Christ and not you? Are you wanting that your life should be the vessel for Him to do exactly the same as if He were living here on earth? He is using your body, which He purchased with His Blood, and has every right to take over. That is normal Christian living! That is the intent and the purpose of why God gave His Holy Spirit, that we might know this resurrection life through us. It goes on to say: . . . **and the fellowship of his sufferings . . .** That does not sound easy for some - . . . **being made conformable unto His death;**

11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Do you understand what this means? It really does not matter what happens to us. It matters that Jesus Christ has the life that we say is His, purchased by His Blood and that He has this life and that He takes over and does what He wants to His glory. He is alive! And He is alive in me, if I am a believer!. He is alive in you, if you are a believer! The answer to the situations around us is in the Lord Jesus Christ and His resurrection power.

Will you respond to the Lord and say, '*That is what I want!*' Write to us. We have a book to help you with - *Food for Faith* - on this very issue. We love you.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.

