

RESURRECTION POWER – USE IT OR LOSE IT

Jesus' sacrifice on the cross not only paid the penalty for our sins, but gave him **power and authority** over death, the devil and the entire earth:

²⁰But now Christ is **risen from the dead**, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

²¹For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. ²³But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. ²⁴Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when **He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power**. ²⁵For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. ²⁶The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. ²⁷For "He has **put all things under His feet**." (1Corinthians 15:20-27 NKJ)

Resurrection Power is Given to Us – Through Trials & Suffering!

⁷And our hope for you is steadfast, because we know that **as you are partakers of the sufferings**, so also you will **partake of the consolation**. (2Corinthians 1:7)

Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have **suffered the loss of all things**, and **count them as rubbish**, that I may **gain Christ** ⁹and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; ¹⁰that I may **know Him and the power of His resurrection**, and the **fellowship of His sufferings**, being **conformed to His death**, ¹¹if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. (Philippians 3:8-11, NKJ)

Victory Through Trials

The road to victory through the **application of resurrection power** does not lie in complete **avoidance** of problems ("in this world you will have tribulation" John 16:33, NKJ)

"We ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your **patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure**, ⁵which is **manifest evidence** of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be **counted worthy** of the kingdom of God, **for which you also suffer**; ⁶since it is a righteous thing with God to **repay with tribulation those who trouble you**, ⁷and to **give you who are troubled rest** with us **when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven** with His mighty angels, ⁸in flaming fire **taking vengeance** on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (2Thess 1:4-10)

Instead, **victory** comes by **persevering through** the trials

Consider it pure **joy**, my brothers, whenever you face **trials** of many kinds, ³because you know that the **testing of your faith develops perseverance**. ⁴Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be **mature and complete**, not lacking anything. (James 1:2-4, NIV)

For this very reason, make every effort to **add to your faith goodness**; and to goodness, **knowledge**; ⁶and to knowledge, **self-control**; and to self-control, **perseverance**; and to perseverance, **godliness**; ⁷and to godliness, **brotherly kindness**; and to brotherly kindness, **love**. ⁸For if you possess these qualities in **increasing measure**, they will **keep you from being ineffective and unproductive** in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2Peter 1:5-8, NIV)

Resurrection Power Imparted Through Grace

And He said to me, "**My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.**" Therefore most gladly I will rather **boast in my infirmities**, that the **power of Christ may rest upon me**. ¹⁰Therefore **I take pleasure in infirmities**, in **reproaches**, in **needs**, in **persecutions**, in **distresses**, for Christ's sake. **For when I am weak, then I am strong**. (2Corinthians 12:9-10, NKJ)

Resurrection Power Imparted Through Love

*I pray that you, being **rooted and established in love**, ¹⁸may have **power**, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹and to **know this love** that surpasses knowledge—that you may be **filled to the measure** of all the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3:17b-19, NIV)*

Resurrection Power Imparted Through Action, Not Talk

*For the kingdom of God is **not a matter of talk** but of **power**. (1Corinthians 4:20, NIV)*

Resurrection Power Imparted Through “I Can” Not Through “I Can’t”

*I can do all things through **Christ** who **strengthens me**. (Philippians 4:13, NKJ)*

*If **God is for us**, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31)*

***Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.** (Luke 10:19, NKJ)*

*And these signs will follow **those who believe**: In My name they will **cast out demons**; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸they will **take up serpents**; and if they drink anything deadly, it **will by no means hurt them**; they will **lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.**” (Mark 16:17-18, NKJ)*

This resurrection power is available to you and through you even if you feel bad or weak, or don't have full faith or feel you lack authority because it's **not your power or authority or strength, it's Christ's!**

*If you have **faith as a mustard seed**, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and **nothing will be impossible for you.** (Matthew 17:20, NKJ)*

Resurrection Power Not Imparted Through “I want” but rather Through “Thy Will Be Done”

*But know this, that in the **last days** perilous times will come: ²For men will be **lovers of themselves** (Greek = philautos = “selfish”)... **having a form of godliness but denying its power**... **always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.** (2Timothy 2:2,5,7, NKJ)*

Our focus **must be on God's Will**, not on our will:

*He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, “**O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.**” (Matthew 26:39)*