Daily Devotion #83

The God Factor

*Ephesians 3:20 – “Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us..”*

I remember watching my favorite movie, The Ten Commandments, many years ago and thinking about the awesome power of God as He literally opened the Red Sea so the children of Israel could cross and be forever free from the bondage of the Egyptian Pharaoh. What made that scene so impressionable to me was that the very same God who did that amazing miracle is the same God I know. The same God who led the Hebrews through the wilderness for forty years and proved through the miracle of manna, and other miracles, for all that time is the same God to whom I pray.

When I began to realize that the God of the Bible is the same God who I am serving and the same God who knows me intimately, my faith grew exponentially. I began to understand that if the God of the Old Testament and even the New Testament could do what He did for the people of those days, then He could certainly do the same things and more in our day.

In the context of Paul’s encouragement to the Ephesian church, He is telling them that when they accept God fully, they will be strengthened with a power that is beyond anything man can comprehend, a power that is displayed through the Holy Spirit. But Paul was also clear that this power is not our power but power that comes as a result of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 3:16-17) God has the ability to do more than we could ever imagine when our faith is rooted in Jesus. And the more amazing thing is that God displays His power through us.

Many people have assumed that they can conjure some kind of mystical power that will put them in the spotlight of society. And many have worked hard to gain that power. But it has always ended because that selfish ideology is motivated by Satan.

The point is our world is following after the false power of Satan in alarming ways. Satan is deceiving people into thinking that they can obtain some power that will elevate them to the top of the human food chain, if you will. He is working overtime to disguise himself so that the human mind thinks that it can have more and more and be a dominate force over the rest of humanity. It is a dreadful plan, but one that works well. We are watching people make decisions that make no sense to the rational mind, unless you understand that Satan is behind it all.

Here is the most encouraging news. When Satan works to deceive people, the one factor He always leaves out is God. He spins his tales and conjures in the mind false thoughts that seem real and manipulates people to dominate and cause fear in others. Because he has one plan - to rule the world. But in all his attempts, he fails to remember God. And God will always have the final say in any matter. God holds all the trump cards. And I’m not talking about President Trump. At the end of the day, God will always display Himself as God in the most trying times and especially when it seems there is no relief from the situation or when there seems to be no way out of the predicament.

Beloved, don’t ever forget that, as followers of Jesus Christ, we have the power of the Holy Spirit in us. At any moment we can call on the God of gods to help us in our time of need. And when we trust Him, He will always play His trump card and send Satan away. As you look at life with all the confusion and unsettledness happening, remember your God who will work to fulfill His plan perfectly through you, every time.