

ARE YOU WEAK, OR ARE YOU WEAK?

22/1/12

There is a weakness that destroys an individual and there is a weakness that is more powerful than the greatest of all threats. This is completely opposed to the wisdom and expectation of those who are not living their life as wise Christians. The bible reveals the type of weakness that will enable you to defeat the strongest of the strong. It also reveals the weaknesses that will ultimately destroy you if you are not careful. The following scriptures give us a strong indication of how weak you need to be.

Examples of personal positions of weakness, that have turned into great strengths.

Moses tells God that he is not the man for the job as he lacks ability and confidence (Exo 4:1&10).

Jonathan and his armor-bearer defeated a large group of Philistines (1Sam 14). Numerically weak.

The teenager David, killed Goliath the giant (1Sam 17). Unskilled in combat, totally outclassed.

Gideon and 300 of his men defeated many tens of thousands of Midianites (Jud 7). Militarily foolish, inferior.

Jesus Christ was poor, meek and lowly... a Jewish carpenter (Mat 11:29). He conquered death and the grave through his weakness (sacrifice). One man against the whole world, fighting every sin, contending with death.

Paul confided to the Corinthian church of his weakness, fear and trembling (1Cor 2:3; 2Cor 10:10).

Examples of national positions of weakness, which have also turned into great victories.

Israel, the 'fewest of all people' (Deu 7:7), defeated Jericho, all Canaan (Jos 6), took all the promised land.

The third world is now embracing Christianity, while the West is forsaking most of their God given values.

How do those who are weak get to a position where they defeat their much stronger enemies?

1. *The first thing all Christians need to do, is to acknowledge their physical and spiritual weakness.*

When God chose Moses to speak before Pharaoh, he said, 'I am slow of speech' (Exo 4:10).

When God chose Jeremiah, he said, 'I am a child' (Jer 1:9).

David knew he was weak... he told Goliath, 'The Lord saveth not with sword and spear' (1Sam 17:47).

Isaiah said that God 'bringeth the princes to nothing; he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity' (Isa 40:23).

Many of the weak that fail, never get past this point... they know the power of God but don't trust in it.

2. *The weak always declare God's strength. **ISA 40:28** Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.*

Even God's weakness is far superior to our ability... 'the weakness of God is stronger than men' (1Cor 1:25).

3. *The weak always depend on God's unlimited strength and wisdom... not their own strength or intelligence. **ISA 40:29** He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. **30** Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: **31** But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.*

When God told Paul, 'My strength (God's) is made perfect in weakness (ours),' Paul wisely responded, 'Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ... For when I am weak, then I am strong' (2Cor 12:9-10).

Why does God choose the weak to defeat the strong? So the credit goes to God, rather than men. This is the exact opposite to our world where the 'heroes' are worshipped while the creator is rejected.

*Gideon had 32,000 men to use... only 300 were chosen. **JUD 7:2** ...lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, mine own hand hath saved me.*

*Likewise Paul declared to the Corinthian church, **1COR 1:27** But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; **28** And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: **29** That no flesh should glory in his presence.*

God alone is all the strength we need... thus we don't allow our ability, ego or even our doubts or fears to get in the way of the humble weakness that is essential for overcoming this world.

2COR 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the **excellency** of the power may be of God, and not of us. *The wise know they are weak, but they don't allow their weakness to destroy them... they serve God!*