

## WHEN THINGS GO WRONG

16/9/18

*Astronaut and artist Alan Bean died in May this year at age 86. He was the fourth human to walk on the moon as part of the crew of Apollo 12, and spent 31 hours on the lunar surface in the 2<sup>nd</sup> moon mission 1969. Alan Bean's first space launch has gone terribly wrong after less than a minute; the craft had been hit by lightning twice. Despite flashing warning lights all over the control panels, he could see the batteries were still putting out the required power. He kept repeating this to his crew and mission control as the team scrambled to determine what happened and what to do. The ground suggests resetting the seemingly ailing systems, but Bean hesitates. "One of the rules of space flight is you don't make any changes to an electrical system unless you've got a good idea why you're doing it," he will later say. "I knew we had power, so I didn't want to make any changes. I figured we could fly into orbit just like that. We've all learned that by randomly switching the electrical system around, you can get yourself into more trouble."*

*After some deliberation, and as it becomes more clear that lightning was the culprit, Bean allows the electrical systems to start their recovery. He remembered the existence of a backup power switch for the signal electronics that, when used, helps cut the time of the recovery from the incident and kept the mission from being aborted. The principles behind this true story are much the same as the ones we work with as Christians... Like Alan Bean, God has trained and empowered us to make good choices when troubles come.*

***We are also on a mission, but ours is to save lives. MAR 16:15*** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature (this world is hostile to our spiritual values... like the astronauts, we are suited up with spiritual covering). **16** He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Without protection we all die... while God offers our soul a new body.

***We are equipped to survive in a hostile environment. PSA 121:6*** The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. **7** The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall **preserve thy soul**. **8** The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore. *We are fighting a spiritual battle this time; our needs and solutions are different than that of the natural earth.*

***We have clear instructions that work, despite what our natural minds might think. 2COR 4:18*** While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal. *Let's not mess with the spiritual settings God has given us... even when it seems all may be lost.* **2COR 5:7** (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

***We don't need to fear the unknown; we always have support at hand. DEU 31:6*** Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he *it is* that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. *When red lights are flashing everywhere, be patient, God will reset the problems.*

**ISA 41:10** Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. *God's technology never fails.*

***Our mission is well planned with every possible situation covered. ISA 46:10*** Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times *the things* that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: *We don't need to tamper with the scriptures or God given principles. God's ways are far more modern and effective than any other option. However, spiritual life requires commitment and training.*

***Trouble will always come for those that navigate a hostile environment. 1PET 4:12*** Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

**1COR 10:13** There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*. *God has everything covered; patient continuation will see us through.*

***God resets and maintains our status every moment of our lives. LAM 3:22*** It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. **23** They are **new every morning**: great is thy faithfulness. *Like the astronauts, we have a manual of instruction and professional support. Thus, our bibles, the indwelling spirit and the support of each other will get us safely through every problem that can ever rise.*

***When our mission is completed. REV 21:7*** He that **overcometh** shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. *We are spiritual travellers in a foreign and harmful world. Its spiritual pollution and*

*corruption (sins), are fatal without God's protection. People need to know that there is a way of escape, but if you don't tell them, who will? Our destination gets closer by the minute.*