

# ALAN TAYLOR

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## Standing on His Word of Truth

There have been moments of fear that have gripped my heart off and on throughout my adult life. These are the moments of thought that seem to leap forward in my natural brain when I'm in the middle of a battle, when I am doing my best to obey God, and a moment of realization that I might fail hits me. It would start with a small thought then would follow with a million pounds of emotions of defeat and doom.

I understood this was from my natural man, and yet I felt as if the world would end soon. There was a season a couple of years ago when God instructed me to "stop preaching and ONLY to sit and pray so that I could really get to know Him." I thought that I was a man of faith that is until I obeyed His instructions, soon I realized that my faith was more based in my ability to control things then it was in trusting in Him. So, obeying him forced me to overcome strongholds within my natural man that refused to trust God.

It says in *2 Corinthians 10:4-5* "*For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,*". There is always a battle from the natural man to follow God because it loses its power to lead you. These are strongholds that are embedded in our carnal thoughts. They create a logical argument against trusting God's direction, and then natural emotions of fear come rushing in behind that argument to force you to change direction. Thank the Lord I had His Word to stand on; otherwise, I would have given up.

I would be sleeping like a baby when I would have one tiny thought of doom and gloom. I would open one eye just for a moment, but then the natural emotion would come like a flood. I've experienced the emotion of great joy like a rush before, but this was in the opposite direction. I would be up all night wrestling these lies that were filled with the logic of the many reasons of how I missed God and would discover the taste of failure.

One of my favorite men of God in the world went through a health battle for a number of years. He's always been like a gladiator in my eyes, and it was painful to watch him struggle, but he refused to let go of his faith. I visited him in the hospital at one point, and everything was looking even more severe at that point. I kept listening for the Lord to instruct me to lay hands on him and pray for him, but I could not find that directive, so I just spent time being with him. I was ministering at his church for a week while he hadn't preached for quite a long season because of the battle he was in. He was in the hospital and unable to attend the services, but the church was standing strong in faith that the Word of God was true. I think it was on the last night of my meetings that he suddenly showed up completely healed by God while in the hospital bed. He took over his pulpit and has been preaching strong ever since.

He told me something I'll never forget. He shared that when he was weary in that long fight and his emotions would seem to be defeating him that he would not only confess the Word, but he would remind himself that it was all a lie! He said, "Alan, do you know that whole thing was a lie, the symptoms, the thoughts of defeat, and the struggle." The whole experience was a complete fabrication of the enemy and that God's Word was the absolute TRUTH!"

He never let go of the Truth and realized that the lie of the enemy, even though it was built with evidence of physical symptoms, was still a lie against the Truth of the Word. He had this Truth in his heart and refused to accept the lie, and it's the reason why God didn't want me to lay hands on him in the hospital. He was already healed and was walking that Truth out, and I would have just gotten in the way.

If you are going to walk with God, there will be times when the only evidence of success will be His Word. Here is an example of another man of God in 2 Samuel 7:25 *"Now, O LORD God, the word which You have spoken concerning Your servant and concerning his house, establish it forever and do as You have said. "So let Your name be magnified forever, saying, 'The LORD of hosts is the God over Israel.' And let the house of Your servant David be established before You. "For You, O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, have revealed this to Your servant, saying, 'I will build you a house.' Therefore Your servant has found it in his heart to pray this prayer to You. "And now, O Lord GOD, You are God, and Your words are true, and You have promised this goodness to Your servant."*

Don't give up; don't give in to discouragement. Say out loud as Samuel did *"Your Words are True"*. I often think about my pastor's statement, especially when I'm in the midst of a battle, or I feel like I'm walking on water. I remember what he told me as he was raised off that hospital bed. "It was all a lie." The feelings, thoughts, battles, struggles, emotion, reminders of past failures, opinions from others, and even the opinion of ourselves are simply a lie with no power against the Truth of God.

As we build His Truth in our hearts, then it will expose all else as lies. I thank God for His Word and that I sleep so much more in peace now. You will win, please, don't give up on walking in the promises He's given to you.

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