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Unmasking Unworthiness

I always love when spring comes around. It is so refreshing for me to see the beginning of a new season. It is an excellent time to focus on what the Lord has planned for my life. I always like to take a little time to reflect on the past season and look ahead to the future. It is essential for us to reestablish hope and courage for our lives and remind ourselves who we are in Christ.

I want to encourage you to get excited about all your Heavenly Father has in store for you this next season! I have found that many believers are feeling discouraged with their future. Perhaps it is the world's economy, or it might be past struggles. Whatever the reason, the Lord has a plan for you, and He has only one thought in His mind: Victory.

Hopelessness, defeat, and depression all come from the same root, and I think that many people deal with these issues. Unworthiness is the root and one of the most destructive plans of the devil on the body of Christ right now. Satan has been working hard to cover our future hopes with a blanket of unworthiness. This quiet attack on our hearts can bring us to a place of expecting things to be the same in the future. Instead, we should have great hope for all the beautiful things God has planned for us. When unworthiness has crept into our hearts, we might say, "I know I am a child of God, and He loves me, BUT there are still failures in my life. I still battle temptations and fear. I don't think I can ever measure up to what God wants me to be or what I want to be!" These accusations are from a relentless attack on your heart by the enemy. He works tirelessly to build a legal case in your mind of why you won't succeed. These feelings are opposite to the truth of who you are in Christ.

Don't ever allow anyone to tell you that you cannot make it, not even yourself. We should never judge our future by the struggles of our flesh. In my own life, I have never felt worthy. I have never felt good enough for the work that God has called me to do. I am learning to trust what God said about me and not anything else. I have to make myself believe God's Word over my feelings. I must put my faith in the work of God and believe that I can overcome. In our flesh, of course, we are unworthy, but in Him, we are powerful.

I am reminded of the life of Gideon. When the crops the Israelites had sowed were ready at harvest time, the Midianites came with their numbers of people and camels and ate up the crops. There were so many of them that they were like locusts, and when they left, the land was completely bare. There was no food left behind for man or the animals. So, when the people cried out to God to save them, God sent an Angel to talk to a man named Gideon. The Angel said to him, "The LORD is with you, you mighty man of valor!" Gideon didn't see himself as a man of valor; he saw himself as the weakest and the least in his father's house. God used this weak man to save a nation. Gideon may have seen himself as weak, but God didn't. He doesn't look at the same things we do to judge just how far we can go into Him. What the world may see as weak and powerless, God sees as the opportunity for someone to truly trust in Him.

We will never be worthy in our own power. So many believers are losing their peace and joy by believing the lie of unworthiness. They believe that they will never be worthy in God's eyes. They believe that victory will not come until they are perfect. In this, they are unable to experience the complete love of God. An endless drive to please God in our flesh will always lead to failure. In our own human power, we can never accomplish His will for our lives.

When we look in the scripture, we can find that God is in the habit of picking the less qualified people to do incredible things for Him. He has always believed in people more than they are in themselves. Look at how the Lord chose the children of Israel to be His people in Deuteronomy 7:6-7 *“For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth. The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples.”*

I don't believe God chooses the weak to prove His greatness. I believe that the ones who realize the weakness of their own ability will entirely rely on God. Those of us who know that without Him, it is impossible ever to complete our life will cling to the life of God. We will abandon our human abilities. Oddly I am thankful for my lack of human strength and capability in myself. It forced me to yield my will over to Him. It's true that without God, I have nothing, but with Him, all things are possible. Even the best of the best in natural wisdom and strength pales in light of what a weak person can accomplish when they are in submission to God.

The Apostle Paul describes this very thing in 1 Corinthians 1:26-31, *“For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption— that, as it is written, “He who glories, let him glory in the LORD.”*

Most of the activity in the church today is people trying to serve God in their own ability. Some believers have so much natural ability to rely on. Because of that, they never come to a place of complete reliance on God. This is why there are not many mighty or noble people fulfilling their calling the way the Lord desires. The Lord believes in you, and He sees victory in your future. This will be a fantastic season in the Lord!

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