

AUTHORITY OF MAN'S WILL IN THE NEW CREATION



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HOW TO INCREASE
THE DOMINION OF CHRIST
THROUGH YOU

TIMOTHY JORGENSEN

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1

TWO BLESSINGS AND TWO LOCATIONS

"Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

-Gen.1:26-28

From the beginning, man was meant to have the power to use their Will to change their circumstances.

The first blessing that God pronounced over mankind was the gift of being made in God's own image. The second foundational blessing pronounced over man was inherent dominion. It wasn't enough that God made man in His own image, God needed to give man the power to make overruling

choices that would change their world. The two blessings were meant to go hand in hand.

No other created being was given these two blessings- and these two things should be recognized as the prized possession of mankind, the crown jewels that should shine to all creation—*we are created in His image and we have dominion.*

Genesis 3 changed the situation-the enemy deceived and man misused-or rather dis-used the authority given to him and submitted his Will to the devils Will. Luke 4:8 gives a glimpse into the devils glee over this event-in his encounter with Jesus. ***“And the devil said to Him, “All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.”*** This also gives a glimpse into the Lord’s anger over this event as well. ***“Get behind me satan! For it is written, you shall worship the Lord your God and Him only you shall serve.”*** No other temptation recorded in Luke 4 elicited such anger. This passion was fueled by the mission that Jesus was on to give mankind back what was lost, and even more.

The Greatest Freedom

The greatest freedom of salvation is the unchaining of the human Will. It is the greatest power of salvation given to mankind. Do you realize this? What is real power anyways? When you think of power, what do you think about? Fundamentally, real power is the power to make decisions. The most wretched prison is where you have all the desires, but no

power to make the choices. This is fundamentally what hell is! *You have all your wishes, desires, dreams, but no power to fulfill them.* How horrible to have a fully activated emotions, memory, intellect and imagination-but no Will to bring them into fulfillment. **Conversely, heaven is just the opposite. Your Will is fully functional to bring all the best parts of your soul into fulfillment.** His Will is DONE, not undone in heaven! But let's get back to hell for a moment-because 'hell' is where most Christians think they are supposed to live! All kinds of desires, but no power to make decisions that change their circumstances to reflect the Will of God. That's a taste of hell on earth. Is that how we want to live? Sometimes by thinking about the endgame, things become so much clearer about how we are to live now. We are to live out the Kingdom of God on earth-showing that He is King over the earth's circumstances through our lives as the body of Christ! In fact in Matt. 6:33 it says if we seek out this reality (of Him being King on earth), this will cause ALL THESE THINGS (things that concern our earth life) to be added unto us. Isn't that verse clearer now? It is focused on living according to a moral code, but bringing everything into the order and dominion of Heaven through our choices!

This hell on earth was realized by Paul in Romans 7. ***“For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin. For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do. If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good. But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.*”**

For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God-through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin. There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.” (Rom. 7:14-8:2)

This passage tells us the torment of a Will that is bound to sin. It wants to be a good gatekeeper, it wants to do the right thing, but is bound to the desires of the flesh. But now however-through the death of Jesus Christ for the sin of all mankind, the power of sin is broken. Now your Will has regained the power to CHOOSE. It is God’s greatest gift to man, and the devil’s chief desire-the control of the human will. The devil knows he can no longer just grab control of a Christian’s Will like he once could, so now his only power and strategy is to put influence and pressure upon man’s Will to do his pleasure

through his seductive input to the other parts of the soul. (This is what the Bible calls ‘temptation’) This is because it is the other parts of the soul that the Will listens to in order to make a quality decision. So that is one strategy the enemy uses to dilute the power of the Will of the New Creation. Distraction and mis-direction.

But there is another diabolical strategy however-through the devil's lies concerning the authority that the Will of the New Creation possesses. Avoiding evil and distraction is one side of the coin, but the other side of the coin is more important-the power to choose GOOD, and make good happen! When you are driving, we do not focus on avoiding the ditch, we focus on arriving at our destination. God's Will is our destination, and we will find out how to choose this in the next chapter.

2

THE SECRET OF GETHSEMANE

The core of Spirit Life Training is that walking in the Spirit is a choice. This crucial core centers on the fact that your Will has the authority to release your spiritual nature, and the capacity of God. Eph. 3:20 ***“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,”*** But this scriptural understanding comes *after* we are strengthened in might through His Spirit in

our inner man.(vs 16) And the key manner by which we connect with this might in the inner man is through the eyes of our understanding being enlightened so we know the exceeding greatness of the power toward us who believe. (Eph.1:16-19) Our renewed mind connects to the power that is available in our spirit-releasing *the New Creation in Christ*.

Subversive Attack on the Will of the New Creation There is a subtle attack on the power of the recreated human Will, by and through religion saying things that downplay the force of the believer's willpower. We have all heard things – *'if it is God's will, it will happen. God's will be done...'* -and we know that is not true. *'You just can't 'make' God's will happen, you will produce an Ishmael'* -statements like this that sound good, but that pound a subliminal message into us to accept all our circumstances as God's will, unchangeable, and we do not have the power to change anything.

Our One and Only Struggle

Can you want something that is not God's Will? Of course, but the power of salvation, the power of the Word, and the power of the Spirit are working so that your nature is transforming to want the things are only God's Will. In Spirit Life Training, I talk about feeding your spirit first, and keeping your spirit in its position as king, and the rest of your soul and body will come into line, and your desires will be in line with God's Will. Like I said, this is true freedom, and the unlocking of such a beautiful life. Are there struggles? Yes-but there is only one struggle to

really focus on and the rest will fall into place.

God's Will must unite with your Will. If God is for you who can be against you? Think of it-if we are working with God, who could possibly stop us? This is why praying for God's Will to be established in our Will should be the main objective of all our praying! ***“Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.”***(Col.4:12) This man knew the alignment of the human Will with the Will of God was the key for unstoppable victory. Jesus wrestled for this objective in prayer! Read Luke 22:40-44. So many people know the ‘Lord’s prayer’, but what was the first thing that Jesus taught humans to ask for? ***“Your Kingdom come, Your Will be done on earth as it is in heaven...”*** (Matt.6:10) The basic fact is: who can fight God’s Will and win?

So back to the struggle Jesus had in the Garden of Gethsemane. (Luke 22:40-44) He was praying about God's Will to be done. Just like He taught His disciples to do. This was not a prayer based in ignorance- “God-I don’t know what to do, but Your Will be done...” That is not even a biblical use of this prayer! *Jesus knew what God’s Will was!* He was praying to get His own Will locked in, even though it would be tough. But what happened when He prayed and locked it in? He got strengthened in His inner man-to carry out the plan. (rhyme intended) Jesus knew it is all about getting your spirit to rise into its place of dominion, and God’s Will will occur through the Will of the New Creation—*no matter what stands in the*

way.

Perfect Fit - Working in unison

Our Will must fit in God's will like a hand in a glove. Not an extra size glove, just loose and shaking off (like a double minded man), nor a too-tight religious glove (where you are not allowed to DO anything good, just LOOK good)- but a perfect fit, where you move in perfect unison. Your spirit must rise to take hold of His Will, so your Will becomes His Will. "***Submit yourself therefore to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from you.***"(James 4:7) When your Will links with His Will, you have the power to break the devils will. See, he doesn't flee from God's Will, he flees from YOUR WILL unified with God's Will! *Read that part again until it really sinks in.*

So we must get a revelation of the Word through the Spirit and prayer-and reject all influences that try to dictate God's Will through religion or circumstances-It may be a fervent struggle at times like Epaphras and Jesus dealt with, but we have to get God's Will locked unshakably into our mind. That is what God will work with-and make our Will experience His Dominion power in our circumstances. A double minded man will receive nothing from the Lord.

3

FLIPPING THE SWITCH

So how do you strengthen yourself in His Will?

First, know and believe He is working in you.

Philip.2:12-13 “***Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.***” Letting God’s Will work out of you, as He is working in you. 'Works' = Greek word ‘*energeo*’ or energize. Same word is used in Eph.3:20! ‘According to the power that ENERGIZES us!’

It is great to have desires, but it is power to carry them out is the issue. Strengthening and feeding your spirit, putting your spirit first, understanding the position your spirit has-and aligning the rest of your soul and body to that, will bring that power to the surface. If you have power, the best choices are easy. If you only have \$5 in your pocket, where to have lunch limits your power of choice. If you have an abundant bank account however, you have power to make the best choices for

lunch. Once you realize the power available to you, making the powerful choices becomes normal. Exercising yourself to get the Word into you, Worship, Prayer, Praying in tongues, Obeying the Word, Resisting the devil, -these are all exercises you can use to put your spirit into action, feeding it, and letting it rise. Once your spirit gets into motion, God begins to feed His energy through you. You build upon this to make even more powerful choices.

But this energizing is more than a 'feeling'. Truly, God's power and energy just starts with a belief and a Word-based decision. I learned the power of this on the mission field with my teammates-there were times I didn't 'feel' the Spirit to do something, but my teammates would just choose to do it. Deliverance, baptism in the Holy Spirit, Healing, Salvation-sometimes they just would give a call for these things and I didn't think the sermon was all that great, or that the 'anointing' was all that powerful, or that the people were all that ready. But I was amazed—still people were set free, devils came out, healings happened, people were filled with the Holy Spirit-I was so dumbfounded afterwards-people's lives were radically changed—by a choice someone made to do something in the Spirit. They made a choice-and that made the difference. If I would have went by my feelings, or chose to insist on a particular route of operation because my feelings, no lives would have been changed. These minister friends of mine weren't the most 'spiritual' by appearances either-everyone had issues. But God still lived in them, they had faith in Him, **and He worked with the choices they made for Him.** This

brought a sobering revelation of the power of the Will, and the moving of the Spirit to me. *We can make powerful choices that will instigate moves of the Spirit! It all starts with a foundational belief that He is working with and in you.* The Holy Spirit works with the decisions we make! It is a life-changing understanding to know that God works with the decisions we make more than the feeling we feel.

4

THE ROAD TO HEAVEN IS PAVED WITH GOOD INTENTIONS

The second important thing in using the power of the recreated man's Will, is the issue of intentionality over terminology. *'And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power'* (1 Cor.2:4) It is good to speak accurate words, but there is something deeper than the surface that those words must carry.

Dominion beyond Words

Whether training a dog, a toddler or a husband-they don't always understand the English language you are speaking. But when there is an intentionality in your voice, the message is communicated and things get done. 'Sit! Don't touch that! Pick that up! Honey, does the temperature seem too cold in here?'

There is an intentionality that reaches through the language and compels a certain type of obedience. *This issue of intentionality in the function of the recreated Will is a critical understanding.* This explains why Jesus used some of the speech He did and certain things got done that didn't seem precisely prescribed by His words. 'Be Healed' 'Go wash' 'Go show yourselves to the priests' 'Little girl I say to you arise' 'may no one eat fruit from you again'... Power was released that caused amazing things to happen, -things that were NOT directly prescribed by His command! Reflect on these instances, and see what actually occurred, and recognize that what I am saying is true. There is more to His Words than the surface definitions. -If that had been us praying for healing (etc), from how we have been taught by saying 'Christian incantations', or Christian books on breaking generational curses (oops) we would have attempted to specifically name each action or reaction we required that each bodypart do, or each element of disease that we wanted to come against, as well as each spiritual root. Etc etc.... Sometimes when we do all these, we are simply compensating and working up the element of intentionality to get activated. *It looks and sounds like we are trying to convince ourselves of God's Will and our own Will by our much speaking.* If something gets accomplished, great. People want to do and help with the best with what they know. But the reality of the Will of God, and the Will of Jesus is expressed in a much more intense way than just the defining of words and phrases.

The Depth of Man's Nature that Gets Things Done

Intentionality is the deep passion of the Will to see something done. It is the thing that even with a word, demons are cast out, a motion of the hand, and waters part, with even a LOOK-a husband gets the message and obeys. This is the reason why such a high percentage of communication is non-verbal.

Intentionality is the driving force behind the moving power of the recreated Will. ***'What things soever you desire, when you pray, believe you receive them, and you will have them.'*** The force that moves mountains is faith right? But broken down, it is the intentionality of the Will that is the initiating force that actually moves them. Whose Will? God's? no –yours! YOURS! I love the Word of faith message, but you can talk yourself blue in the face to a mountain, and nothing is moving until you get some DESIRE set on FIRE inside of you! It's not just wishing 'oh that would be nice', but a literal requirement of your nature that demands that something move, change, disappear... until a switch clicks over on the inside of you- "oh yes-it will happen".

Look at the example given in Mark 11-when Jesus cursed the fig tree, His desire was for figs, none were there, His Will made the choice- 'no one eats fruit from this tree again'. And walked away-it was as good as done. And so it was. Let your Yes, be Yes, and your No be No-anything else comes from... the evil one. But let's switch it-what if your Yes was always Yes, and your No, was always No... that firm decision-making ability would come from... God? A.K.A. -the godly nature?

Let me share with you a couple of illustrative passages from John G. Lake's sermons "The Calling of the Soul" and "Spiritual

Hunger"

*"The desire of which Jesus spoke (for when He spoke of desire, He spoke of this same call of the soul) was not the simple attitude of the outer man. Certainly it included it. Perhaps the desire in the beginning was simply that of the mind, but as the days and years passed **and the desirability of obtaining grew in the soul, it became a call of the deepest depth of the man's nature.** And that is the character of desire that Jesus spoke of when He said, "Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled."*

"The spiritual action that takes place within the nature of man, that strong desire for God-His ways, His love, His knowledge, His power -causes everything else, perhaps unconsciously to himself, to become secondary."

*"Politicians talk about a paramount issue. That is the issue that stands out by itself above all other and is the greatest and largest and of most issue to the nation. It is the paramount issue. **The soul has its paramount issue, and when the desire of your heart is intensified so that it absorbs all your energies, then the time of its fulfillment is not far away. That is the desire that brings the answer. It is creative desire.**"*

"A woman testified in my hearing one day to this fact. She had been pronounced hopeless and was going blind. No human remedy could do her any good. Someone opened to her, in a dim way, the possibility of seeing through the power of God. She was not very well-taught, but she said this, "Every day for four years I gave up two and one-half hours absolutely

to expressing the desire of my soul for real sight." Not only expressing it in words, but calling the power of God to her that would recreate in her the function of sight in her eyes and make her see. At the end of four and a half year, she said, "My eyes are as well as they ever were."

"That is the reward of persistence, of a desire toward God. Your nature may have sent out just as deep a cry to God as my nature has and still is doing. Is the cry to God continuous? Gradually, as the forces of life concentrate themselves in line with that strong desire, the Spirit of God is operating through your heart, is being directed by that desire and concentrated on a particular line, intensifying every day because of the continuous desire of the soul to possess. **The effect of that concentration of the Spirit of God on that soul is that by the grace of God there is brought to your soul all the elements necessary to formulate and create and fulfill the desire of your heart.** And one morning the soul awakens to discover that it has become the possessor of the desired object."

"... Years ago, I was one of a family of which some member was an invalid in the house for thirty-two consecutive years. During that time, we buried four brothers and four sisters. A call arose in my nature to God for something to stay that tide of sickness and death. Materia Medica had utterly failed. One after another the tombstones were raised. **The call arose in my soul for something from God that would stem the tide and turn it backward.**"

"Nothing else but healing could have come to my life, no other thing but the knowledge of it. God had to bring, from

the furthest ends of Australia, the man who brought to my soul the message of God and the manifestation of His power that satisfied my heart. And healing by the power of God became a fact to me."

"Daniel says that he was convinced by the study of the books of prophecy, especially that of Jeremiah, that the time had come when they ought to be delivered from captivity in Babylon. The seventy years was fulfilled but there was no deliverance. So he diligently set his face to pray it into being (Daniel 9)."

"Here is what I want you to get. If it was going to come to pass mechanically, by a certain date, there would not have been any necessity for Daniel to get that hunger in his soul, so that he fasted and prayed in sackcloth and ashes that deliverance might come."

"No sir, God's purposes come to pass when your heart and mine gets the real God cry, and the real God prayer comes into out spirit and, the real God yearning gets our nature. Something is going to happen then. No difference what it may be your soul is coveting or desiring, if it becomes in your life the supreme cry-- not the secondary matter, or third, or the fourth, or fifth or tenth, but the first thing; the supreme desire of your soul, the paramount issue--all the powers and energies of your spirit, of your soul, and of your body are reaching out and crying to God for the answer. It is going to come, it is going to come, it is going to come."

"I lived in a family where for thirty-two years they never were without an invalid in the home. Before I was twenty-four years of age we had buried four brothers and four sisters, and four other members of the family were dying, hopeless and helpless invalids. I set up my own home; married a beautiful woman. Our first son arrived. It was only a short time until I saw that same devilish train of sickness that followed my father's family had come into mine. My wife became an invalid, my son was a sickly child."

"Out of it all one thing developed in my nature—a cry for deliverance. I did not know any more about the subject of healing than an Indian, notwithstanding I was a Methodist evangelist. But my heart was crying for deliverance; my soul had come to the place where I had vomited up dependence on man. My father spent a fortune on the family, to no avail, as if there was no stoppage to the hell. And let me tell you, there is no human stoppage because the thing settled deep in the nature of man; too deep for any material remedy to get at it. It takes the Almighty God and the Holy Spirit and the Lord Jesus Christ to get down into the depths of man's nature and find the real difficulty that is there and destroy it."

"My brother, I want to tell you, if you are a sinner tonight and away from God, your heart is longing and your spirit asking and your soul crying for God's deliverance. He will be on hand to deliver. You will not have to cry very long until you see that the mountains are being moved, and the angel of deliverance will be there."

"I finally go to that place where my supreme most cry was for deliverance. Tears were shed for deliverance for three

years before the healing of God came to us. I could hear the groans and cried and sobs and feel the wretchedness of our family's soul. My heart cried, my soul sobbed, my spirit wept tears. I did not know enough to call directly on God for it. Isn't it a strange thing that men do not have enough sense enough to have faith in God for all their needs; do not know enough to call directly on God for physical difficulties, as well as spiritual ones? But I did not."

"But bless God, one thing matured in my heart-- a real hunger. And the hunger of a man's soul must be satisfied. It must be satisfied. It is a law of God; that law of God is in the depth of the Spirit. God will answer the heart that cries. God will answer the soul that asks. Christ Jesus comes to us with divine assurance and invites us when we are hungry to pray, to believe, to take from the Lord that which our soul covets and our heart asks for."

"So one day the Lord of heaven come our way and in a little while the cloud of darkness, that midnight of hell, that curse of death, was lifted and the light of God shone into our life and into our home, just the same as it existed in other men's lives and other men's homes. We learned the truth of Jesus and was able to apply the divine power of God. We were healed of the Lord."

"When I was a lad, I accompanied my father on a visit to the office of John A. McCall, the great insurance man. We were taken to McCall's office in his private elevator. It was

the first time I had ever been in a great office building and ridden in an elevator, and I remember holding my breath until the thing stopped. Then we went into his office, the most beautiful office I had ever beheld. The rugs were so thick I was I was afraid I would go through the floor when I stepped on them. His desk was a marvel, pure mahogany, and on the top of his desk, inlaid in mother of pearl was his name, written in script. It was so magnificent, that in my boyish attitude, I said, "I am going to have an office just like this and a desk like that with my name on it when I am a man."

"I did not know how much of an asking it was in my nature, and it seemed sometimes my desire had drifted away until I was in my thirtieth year. I was invited to come to Chicago to join an association of men who were establishing a life insurance association. They said, "Lake, we want you to manage this association." We dickered about the matter for three weeks until they came to my terms, and finally the president said, "Step into this office until we show you something. We have a surprise for you." And I stepped into an office just exactly the duplicate of John McCall's office, and there in the center was a desk of pure mahogany and instead of the name of John A. McCall it was John G. Lake, in mother of pearl. I had never spoken of that soul desire to a person in the world."

"Friends, there is something in the call of the soul that is creative. It brings things to pass. Don't you know that when the supreme desire of your heart is to know God, that all the spiritual energy of your nature and the powers of God given to you begin to concentrate and work alone that certain line

and form, and there comes by the unconscious creative exercise of faith into being that our soul calls for. That is the creative action of faith, you and God together, evidencing the power of creative desire."

Let me give one more example of the power of intentionality in releasing the dominion of the New Creation. There was a man that came to Dr. Lake's office one day, and Dr. Lake was sitting in his desk, and the man came in on crutches). The man walked in and said, "I'm a good Catholic, and I don't want anything that's going to hurt my religion. I don't have faith in man, I don't have faith in doctors, I don't even have faith in God. What can you do for me?"

Most Christians would have said, "Not a thing. You've got to have faith if you're going to be healed." But Dr. Lake wasn't that way. He laughed. He pushed himself back from his desk, and said, "That's alright. I've got enough faith for both of us." and got up and walked over, next to the man that had the crutch, and stood there and talked with him. He later stated, "I never prayed for the man. I let the Spirit of life flow from me to him, to drive out the sickness and disease." While he stood there, talking to the man, having shaken his hand, and holding him by the arm as they talked, he eventually took the man's crutch away from him. The man did not notice he had taken it.

Lake finished by shaking the man's arm and saying, "You go and have a good day!" The man turned, and walked out without his crutch and didn't even notice that he had been healed.

When he got outside the office into the hallway, Lake called

to him and said, "Hey! Do you want this?" The man turned back towards Lake, and seeing the crutch he said, "Ahh, to hell with it!" Lake said, "I agree." Lake put the crutch down. The man walked out healed.

What Dr. Lake referred to as 'faith' was not our in our typical verbal confession form. It was in a deeper, stronger and more pervasive form of intentionality. While the mouth conversed about life, weather, events etc, the heart was intent upon the life, strength and healing power of God driving out sickness and weakness. This intention needed an outlet, and Dr. Lake's action of taking the crutch was an indirect command that the man be healed and free. Dr. Lake's heart knew that it would be done. Unfortunately we forget the process Paul spoke about in Romans 10 that ***"with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."*** (vs 10) It is the heart that positions you first. God's Power in your life will not be limited by your vocabulary, but only by the true intention of your heart. (Eph. 3:20) Re-read Dr. Lake's sermon excerpts on 'the Calling of the Soul' and 'Spiritual Hunger'. I don't think anyone can get across the concept of intentionality better than he did in these passages. Then, as an exercise, try going about your day and try to make each thing you do happen by commanding it internally with your mind first. Then vividly imagine your intention happening! Then, when you do say or do that action physically, or speak it verbally, you will experience a distinct difference in your focus as well as a new power behind your words and actions. **I promise, you will see it. Keep practicing-this one exercise could transform your whole life.**

5

WHEN YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE LEFT IN THE RING

The third way the authoritative nature of the recreated Will is manifested is through Persistence. This should come easily when intentionality is established-but the fact of the matter is that *intentionality will be tested*. The testing of your faith-makes it come forth as gold. Testing doesn't make you, *it reveals you*. Gold is still gold before it goes through the fire, and after the fire. Faith is still faith before the opposition, and after the opposition. It simply is revealed as true faith, rather than a façade of wishing or happy thoughts.

Much has been written in motivational quotes concerning the virtues of persistence. But the power of persistence is seen in glimpses in the Word of God -where because of the power of the human Will being manifested in persistence—*it has proven to change even God's plans*. Persistence breaks resistance and demonstrates the ultimate end of authority over circumstances.

Remember the woman with the issue of blood from Mark 5? She 'stole' a miracle. Her persistence leached her healing when *Jesus would have just kept walking by otherwise*.

Remember the Centurion from Matthew 8? Jesus made a plan to come to the house, but the centurion stopped Him, and

dictated the avenue by which the miracle would come. Jesus declared that this word from the CENTURIONS mouth healed the servant, rather than His! The centurion's faith pointed to the authority of Jesus, but Jesus pointed the finger right back to the Will of the centurion that got the job done. The centurion had the understanding of the power of the will of someone in authority to make something happen.

Remember Mary and the wine running out at the wedding in John 2? In essence, Jesus said it was none of His business, but Mary's intention was communicated to Jesus, and her command was passed on to people who had to obey her. She insisted in the face of God's no, and Jesus changed His mind.

Then there is the Syrophenician woman in Mark 7. In essence Jesus said "No-not now." She persisted and Jesus changed His mind. "For THIS saying your daughter is healed." But it really wasn't the terminology that requested healing specifically, but the terminology that detailed the insistence of her will! She was NOT even recreated, NOT even a Christian, NOT even filled with the Holy Spirit, NOT even a Jew, DIDN'T even use a bible verse-But her raw persistence made God's will turn in her favor-she leveraged EVERYTHING Jesus threw at her to make her desire for God's goodness to manifest in her life.

One of my favorite passages is Luke 11 concerning the parable of the friend at midnight. In reality, persistence is annoying to everyone but God. Funny-it is manipulation if you do it to a person, or even witchcraft, but it is **faith** if you do it to God

with an attitude of NEVER giving up. And it makes things happen! Astounding scripture!

A similar lesson is told by Jesus in Luke 18. This lady did her best to manipulate, and intimidate an ungodly judge. This kind of persistence seems uncomfortable and wrong, but Jesus highlighted her behavior and stated that God calls it faith when you do it to Him.

See, this is the power of the recreated human will.

You can make stuff happen. You always can make a choice! Your Will is free to make God's Will happen on earth as it is in heaven. You always have a choice to believe in the blessings on your life, and act on the commanded New Creation Nature. You always can make a choice when faced with a tough circumstance. Jesus is our example.

-Jesus had a choice when faced by the devil.

-Jesus had a choice when faced by the madman of Gadera -
Jesus had a choice when facing the man with the withered hand -
Jesus had a choice when faced by Lazarus in the grave -
Jesus had a choice when faced by a dead 12 year old girl.

-Jesus had a choice when faced by 5,000 hungry men.

-Jesus had a choice when faced by a crowd that wanted to push Him off a cliff.

-Jesus had a choice when a man was lowered through a roof in front of Him.

-Jesus had a choice when Peter denied Him.

-Jesus had a choice when He was on the cross.

- Jesus had a choice on Sunday Morning.

-You have been given the power to make choices.

Circumstances don't have to toss you around, or bend you to their dictates. ***Persistence is our belief that we can***

consistently make powerful choices that will change our

situation. We believe that fact. We have barely tapped on the

power of the Will of the New Creation. We have been given a power to make changes that will change not only the earth, as

Adam and Eve were given, but to establish things in earth and heaven. We are created in the nature of God, and been given

the power of dominion. Our Identity and Will are so powerful and precious. Not fragile, but precious. **These must once again**

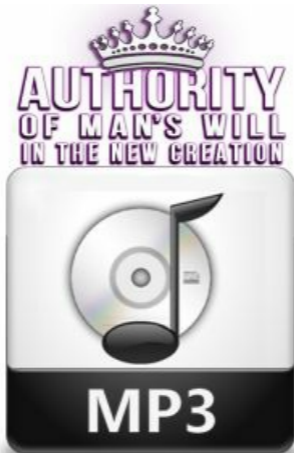
become our crown of glory-we wear them proudly. Don't let anyone take your crown.

"Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown."

(Rev. 3:11)

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