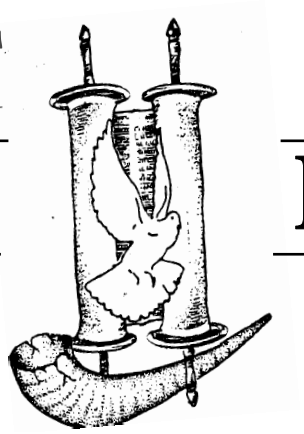
GELOOF FAITH

In Die Woord In The Word



**Geloof is uit die gehoor
en die gehoor is deur die Woord
van God Rom. 10:17**

**Faith cometh by hearing
and hearing by
the Word of God. Rom. 10:17**

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Ons is verlos deur Sy Bloed

Die Here het ons verlos sodat ons nie langer in die hand van die vyand is nie, maar in die Here se hand.

En die Vader mag dank wat ons bekwaam gemaak het om deel te hê aan die erfdeel van die heiliges in die lig—Hy wat ons verlos het uit die mag van die duisternis en oorgebring het in die koninkryk van die Seun van sy liefde (Kol.1:12-13).

Dit is 'n feit dat God ons uit die mag van die duisternis-dit is Satan se koninkryk- oorgebring het na die Koninkryk van Christus. So het ons verlossing-ons sondes is vergewe. Ons is nie langer in Satan se gebied nie, ook nie onder sy gesag nie. Die ongelowige , hulle wat Christus verwerp, die rebelse en ongehoorsaame is onder Satan se wettige gesag, maar ons Christene is nie.
Die feit is dat toe ons bely het en oorgegee het aan Jesus Christus en Hom die Here van ons lewens gemaak het, was ons oorgedra gees, siel en liggaam-uit die koninkryk van Satan binne-in die koninkryk van Christus. Hierdie is feite. Ons glo feite van die onsigbare ryk van God se Woord, want ons gaan nie volgens ons gevoelens nie. Die skild van die geloof bedek elke area van ons lewens. Sodat ons al die vurige pyle van die bose sal kan uitblus (Sien **Efs.6:16**).

In **Efs.1:7** sien ons die voorsiening van die bloed van Jesus: **In Hom het ons die verlossing deur sy bloed, die vergifnis van die misdade na die rykdom van sy genade.**

Die vergifnis van ons sondes is vir ons gekoop deur die bloed van Jesus. Vergelyk hierdie vers met wat Jesus by die Laaste Avondmaal in **Matt. 26:28** toe Hy aan die dissipels die beker gegee het wat die embleem van Sy bloed was gesê het: **Want dit is my bloed, die bloed van die nuwe testament, wat vir baie uitgestort word tot vergifnis van sondes.**

Hebreërs 9:22 sê dat sonder die stortintg van bloed daar geen vergifnis van sonde is nie. Dus is die storting van Jesus se bloed sodat ons sondes vergewe kon word.

Julle sal opmerk dat Paulus in **Efs. 1:7** hierdie twee dinge veelomvattend is: verlossing deur die bloed van Jesus en die vergifnis van sondes. Dit is baie belangrik om te verstaan, omdat ons die volle wettige regte van verlossing slegs het so ver as wat ons sondes se verlossings strek.

As al ons sondes vergewe is, het ons volkome regte van verlossing. As daar egter enige sonde in ons lewens is wat nie bely is nie- en is daarom nie vergewe nie-het ons nie volle wettige regte van verlossing in daardie area nie. Satan het steeds 'n reg in daardie area. As Satan enige reg het, sal hy dit nie opgee nie. Jy kan in sy gesig skreeu of vir 'n week vas, maar jy sal nie die situasie verander nie, omdat Satan weet dat hy 'n wettige reg het wat steeds nie opgelos is nie.

'n Ander algemene manier waarin gelowiges Satan 'n wettige reg in hul lewens gee is om

(Vervolg op bls. 2)

(Vervolg vanaf bls. 1)

ander nie te vergewe nie. Jesus het ons geleer dat ons deur God vergewe is in dieselfde maat waarin ons ander vergewe. Ons moet bid: *"Vergeef ons ons skulde (oortredings), soos ons ons skuldenaars vergewe(die wat teen ons oortree het)"* (Matt.6:12). Ons is nie geregtig om vergifnis van God te eis bo die maat waarin ons ander vergewe nie. (**Sien verse 14-15**). Daarom, as daar enige mense is wie ons nie volgens die maat vergewe het nie, is ons ook nie vergewe deur God nie. Met ander woorde, enige area van onvergifnis in ons lewens is 'n area waarin Satan steeds wettige reg in ons lewens het. Jy kan absoluut niks doen om hom uit jou lewe te kry nie, voordat jy nie wie ook al vergewe het wie jy moet vergewe nie.

Vergifnis is een van die mooiste woorde in enige taal. Wat maak dit so 'n spesiale en pragtige woord? Oorweeg sommige van die resultate wat uit vergifnis vloei: rekonsilliasie, vrede, harmonie, begrip, kameraadskap. Hoe het ons wêreld vandag nie so 'n vreeslike behoefte aan hierdie dinge nie!

In teenstelling, oorweeg sommige gevolge wat voortvloei uit ons mislukkings om vergifnis te gee en te ontvang: bitterheid, twis, oneensgesindheid, haat en oorlog. Soms wil dit voorkom asof die ganse mensdom in gevaar is om oorweldig te word deur hierdie bose, negatiewe magte. As ons ooit bokant hierdie toestande wil uitstyg, sal dit slegs wees wanneer ons leer en die beginsels toepas van vergifnis.

Daar is twee rigtings van vergifnis wat in die Bybel voorkom. Hierdie twee rigtings word geskilder deur daardie groot simbool van ons Christelike geloof: die kruis. Die kruis het twee balke-een vertikaal, een horisontaal-dit verteenwoordig die twee rigtings van vergifnis. Die vertikale balk verteenwoordig die vergifnis wat ons almal nodig het om van God te ontvang en kan slegs ontvang word deur ons identifikasie met die offer en wederopstanding van Jesus Christus. Die horisontale balk verteenwoordig ons verhoudings met ons medemens, en dit spreek van die vergifnis wat in hierdie geval, twee rigtings het: die vergifnis wat ons van ander nodig het en die vergifnis wat ons na ander moet uitreik. Die enigste plek waar ons weereens die genade vir daardie soort van vergifnis kan ontvang is die kruis.

Een van die wonderbaarlikste aspekte van God se natuur is dat wanneer Hy vergewe, Hy dit volkome en volmaak doen. Die boek van Miga verklaar hierdie waarheid pagtig: **"Wie is 'n God soos U, wat die ongeregtigheid vergewe en by die oortreding van die oorblyfsel van sy erfdeel verbygaan? Hy hou toorn nie vir ewig vas nie, maar het 'n welbehae in goedertierenheid. Hy sal Hom weer oor ons ontferm, ons ongeregtighede vertree; ja, U sal al hulle sondes in die dieptes van die see werp" (Miga 7:18-19).**

Is dit nie pragtig nie? Elke verkeerde ding wat ons ooit gedoen het-elke ding wat ons ooit skuldig kon laat voel, elke aantyging wat die vyand ooit teen ons kon bring- trap God onder Sy voet en werp dit in die dieptes van die see.

Moet nooit probeer om terug te gaan en iets wat God begrawe het terug te bring nie. As God jou vergewe het dan is jy vergewe. Daar is geen verdere vrae nie. God se vergifnis is volkome. In Jesaja praat God met Sy volk: **"Ek, Ek is dit wat jou oortredinge uitdelg om My ontwil, en aan jou sondes dink Ek nie" (Jes.43:25).**

Wanneer God ons vergewe, wis Hy die register van ons sondes uit, ons leiklip is skoon.

Die soort vergifnis wat ons nodig het en kan ons slegs ontvang van God Self, dit is die vertikale aspek van vergifnis. Daar is soveel seëninge om deur God vergeef te word. Hierdie waarheid is waarskynlik die mooiste deur Dawid oorgedra in **Psalm 32:**

Welgeluksalig is hy wie se oortreding vergewe, wie se sonde bedek is. Welgeluksalig is die mens aan wie die Here die ongeregtigheid nie toereken nie en in wie se gees geen bedrog is nie (verse 1 en 2).

Dit is belangrik om te sien dat die Bybel nie praat oor 'n mens wat nie vergifnis nodig het nie. Die Bybel dui aan dat ons almal vergifnis van God nodig het; daar is geen uitsonderings nie. In ander Psalms sê Dawid dat daar geen mens is wat nie sondig nie. Ons het almal gesondig. Daarom het ons almal vergifnis nodig. Dit is nie 'n vraag of ons vergifnis nodig het nie, maar of ons dit ontvang het.

Dankie Jesus vir u bloed wat ons reinig!!

CHOOSE FAITH

Let us consider certain circumstances in life that cause fear, always keeping in mind the fact that fear comes from Satan because God **'has not given us a spirit of fear ….!' (2 Tim 1:7).** According to medical research, babies are born with only two fears, the fear of falling, and the fear of a loud noise, all other fears are imparted to them or learnt.

The mistreatment of children by their parents inevitably produces negative emotional and psychological reactions, which they may carry into their adulthood in some or other form of fear. The same is true of mistreatment of children by teachers, especially if the adult (parent or school teacher) uses methods of severe punishment in a spirit of anger. Children react in different ways, – some withdraw into a shell of insecurity, and fear, others become rebellious and reject all authority. Some react with violent, antisocial behaviour. These various behavioural patterns all come as a result of rejection and fear. Please note that I do not for one minute contend that children must never be punished – we must not spare the rod and spoil the child, the Bible tells us that, however, abuse of children is a gross sin, and is often the origin of irrational fear that torments these children in later life.

Parents who are continually fighting and bickering in front of their children, cause them to feel insecure, then there are parents whose addiction to alcohol or other substance abuse, cause traumatic emotional insecurities in their children, produce fear and other unstable tendencies.

Marriage is an area where fear may develop through stress. Arguments and strife cause tension which develops into fear. A strong domineering husband with little consideration for his wife can result in the wife's withdrawal to a dream world in an effort to escape from the fear of man, or it can result in violence, or self-pity and depression that could lead to suicide. Unfaithfulness in marriage is a great cause of fear and insecurity. Traumatic experiences, such as being involved in an accident, being the victim in the case of a robbery or hijacking, losing a love one through death or divorce. The spirit of fear often enters a person through watching horror movies or violence on T.V, especially in children. Fear also takes advantage of those who have undergone a serious operation or illness. If you have been involved in the occult in any of its forms, such as having your fortune told, (by whatever means), playing with the Ouija board, or dabbled in spiritualism, you allow entrance to fear, because they are tools of the devil and they are an abomination to God. Fear is often present in members of families and is often passed down from one generation to another, these generational curses must be broken over you, in the Name of Jesus. It is an established fact however, that many physical ailments, for example, heart-attacks and stomach ulcers are aggravated by, and even caused by fear and worry.

An irrational fear is known as a phobia, and there are many types of phobias. The fear of heights, of closed in spaces, of lifts and aeroplanes, of spiders, of dogs, of germs, and needles, the list goes on. Behind every phobia is a demon power that comes from Satan, and in a later chapter we will discuss how to resist them and overcome them with the Word of God. You must remember that regardless of how the fear gained entrance, when we repent of it and resist it, it has to go in the Name of Jesus. We must not allow any fear to manipulate us.

Every fear is a manifesting demon spirit with its own personality, and it must of necessity, gain entrance to a body through which it is able to operate. We often unknowingly and in ignorance, open ourselves up to a demonic influence, through means we have previously mentioned, and it moves right in and gradually takes over in a particular area of our life. This is not demon possession, but as you give more and more place to its lying influence, you eventually become overtaken by fear. I must assure you once again however, that Satan and all his evil spirits have been defeated, therefore the only way in which they can operate are: 1. Through our ignorance of their existence. If they are able to remain incognito, you do not recognise a demonic attack on your life; 2. If they are able to deceive you; 3. If you believe their lies instead of the truth of the Word of God. They are deceivers because they have the nature of their master, Satan. They know their time is coming to an end and they know that Jesus is Conqueror having defeated them at Calvary. Jesus recognised demons when He ministered on Earth, and He cast them out of the afflicted person. Demons recognised Jesus as the Son of God, and knew that He had power over them. We read in **Luke 4:33-34: And in the synagogue there was a man, which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice, Saying, Let *us* alone; what have we to do with thee, *thou* Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art; the Holy One of God.** Demons believe in Jesus, but they do not

OBEY Him! **James 2:19: Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.** As disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, we do not have to fear devils or demon spirits, we need to resist them and cast them out, - just as Jesus taught in the Word.

And when He had called unto *Him* His twelve disciples, He gave them power *against* unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. (Mat 10:1)

Jesus cast out unclean spirits, deaf and dumb spirits, the spirit of infirmity, He called them by name. They are personalities without bodies, who manifest their demonic natures through the body of persons they seek to enter. We read this in **Matthew 12:43-45: When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth *it* empty, swept, and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.**

The spirit of fear, of bitterness or of rejection, all operate in the same way. A person who allows the demon of rejection into his life, reaches a point where he really BELIEVES that nobody cares for him, that all circumstances conspire to break him down, that he is a failure, and despondency leading to depression result. This is why it is so important that you realise that you are dealing with a demon that must be resisted and withstood at all costs and with aggression! That demon has come to rob you of your peace, your joy and even your health. Jesus said **"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you … Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid" (John 14:27).** In Jesus, peace and freedom from fear are ours, and what priceless possessions they are too! So, when Satan, the thief according to John 10:10, comes to steal these possessions to replace them with his fear, we must not be passive about it! We must NOT allow that demon entrance!

In **1 Peter 5:8-9,** we are admonished by the Lord to**: Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.**

God says that the devil prowls around as a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. He cannot devour everyone, but he searches for someone who will let him in, who will make room for him.

You may think that you are the only one who is suffering with such unbearable fear, and that no one else could possibly understand the torment you are going through, but be encouraged by the fact that this is simply not true, as the scripture states in verse 9 of 1 Pet. 5: **knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.** It also gives the answer in the same verse saying, **Whom resist steadfast in the faith,….** who must we resist steadfastly in faith? The devil who goes around seeking his next victim. **Give no place to the devil! (Eph 4:27).**

We need always to remember whenever we are coming up against the spirit of fear, that "this too will pass", take a deep breath and declare .... **If God *be* for us,** (me) **who *can be* against us** (me)**? He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? (Rom 8:31-32**) God, who gave us Jesus – His precious only begotten Son, who defeated Satan through His shed Blood, will surely give me deliverance from every conceivable fear, and replace it with His peace that passes all understanding. Deliverance from fear and perfect peace, are part of the "all things" promised us in this verse of Scripture!

God had made Himself very clear in His Word when it came to assuring His people NOT to be fearful, afraid or even terrified in times of adversity, and here are some of them:
Jer. 1:8 Do not be afraid of them for I am with you and will rescue you, says the Lord.
Ex. 14:13-14…. Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will shew to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever. The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.
Psalm 91:5 'You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day."
Deut 20:1,3 "When you go to war against your enemies … do not be afraid of them, because the Lord your God will be with you".
2 Chron. 20:15 'This is what the Lord says to you: "Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours but God's."
It is obvious from the above, that God told his people quite clearly that they had no reason whatsoever to fear, because He was with them, and as the New Testament tells us in **Rom. 8:31 If God is for me, then who can be against me?**

Fear breeds fear, and fear brings forth its evil fruit. If you fear cancer because your father and

grandfather had it, then you are setting yourself up for the results that fear can bring. Remember Job said in **Job 3:25: "What I feared most has come upon me"**. Fear failure and you are sowing the seeds of failure! Fear of poverty will cause you to be financially insecure so that you greedily hold onto what you have for fear of losing everything and ending up having nothing. Thus you miss out on the joy and blessings of **Luke 6:38,** which says: **Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.**

Fear causes nervous breakdowns, insomnia, loss of freedom in your prayer life and in your witness for Jesus. Despondency, depression, and lack of purpose for your life are all the results of fear, and you need not live the precious life that Lord has given you, in that frame of mind, because you can be free!

One of the manifestations of self-love is an unrealistic fear of sickness. Hypochondriacs present a problem when it comes to healing, because their whole existence is centred around themselves, and selfishness does not produce flourishing faith! Ask yourself if you are perhaps guilty of this. Such people are constantly on the look-out for symptoms of one or other disease. It seems as if they enjoy these imagined diseases and relish discussing them! They find their identity in forever discussing their operations, their accidents, their medication, diets and alternative remedies.

If you are continually filled with fear of disease and ailments, you automatically dwell on them, and it becomes a vicious circle of demonic activity, BECAUSE FEAR BRINGS SICKNESS! Job was a prey to this set of circumstances. We read in **Job 3:25 – What I feared has come upon me, what I dreaded has happened to me.** It was not God who put sickness on Job in order that he should suffer, as tradition would have us believe, it was Satan! We read in **Job 2:7: So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.**

A nervous breakdown is often the result of imagined illnesses, therefore cast out this image of poor health, and see yourself in the light of God's Word as a strong, healthy person. Fix this truth in your mind by constantly proclaiming the Word of God – **By His wounds I am healed. (Isaiah 53:5).** Fear drives a person to seek sympathy and commiseration from others, and I can understand that, but it is only by taking a strong stand upon God's Word that will bring you the victory. Jesus is your Deliverer, He is your Healer, and the Word tells us in **Matt.15:30, that He HEALED them all**, – each and every one of them, of every sickness and every disease. He is still the same Jesus today.

VICTORY OVER FEAR

If you have a problem with anxiety and fear, I have such good news for you, - there IS victory, and there is deliverance from the bondage of fear! THE REASON FOR THIS CERTAINTY IS, THAT ON THE CROSS OF CALVARY JESUS CHRIST PAID THE FULL PRICE SO THAT YOU CAN BE FREE, TODAY, OF ANY BONDAGE WHICH SATAN HAS USED TO ENSLAVE YOU – AND THAT INCLUDES FEAR IN ALL OF ITS FORMS!

The Word of God tells us that a happy heart promotes healing, but a crushed, fearful spirit dries out the bones. **Prov. 17:22: A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.** Blood is produced in the marrow of the bones. There is a real possibility, according to the Word, that a broken fearful spirit could be responsible for more illnesses than any other cause. We sometimes hear of a marriage partner who has lost a spouse of long standing, suddenly and inexplicitly passing away too. The dread of loneliness causes fear, and fear takes its toll. No matter how painful the situation, you must determine within yourself, by an act of your will, not to allow it to engulf you and reduce you to a state of anxiety and self-pity, you CAN be victorious through Jesus. Remember the Word of the Lord that says in **Prov. 15:13: A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.** A sorrowful heart, if allowed to continue, will open up the door to a spirit of self pity and fear.
Another very subtle fear that often ensnares, but over which we can have complete victory, is the FEAR OF MAN. You may be a born-again child of God and nobody else in your home, (or school or workplace), knows Jesus as their Saviour. This difficult situation is one which Satan will use to promote intimidation and fear of man. Fear of man will always be a stumbling block, whether it is fear of an employer, a husband, a wife, or fear because of the competition with others at school or at work. **Prov. 29:25: The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.**

Satan's desire is to keep you ensnared in this trap, because if you fear man, you fail to witness for Jesus, when an opportunity to do so, presents itself. You may become afraid to be used of God, to lay hands on the sick or drive out demons because you FEAR THE OPINIONS OF OTHERS. There is certain victory over this fear, as the Word assures us in the following Scriptures. Believe them, confess them with your mouth, and make them your own.

Psalm 27:1 – **"The Lord is my light and my**

salvation – whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?"
Rom 8:31 - **"If God is for us, who can be against us?"**
Hebrews 12:2 – **"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith…."**

There is only one way, one code of behaviour, one set of laws. God's Way and God's Word, and God has ordained that His children should live by FAITH in Him and His Word, His written Word – the Bible, and the Living Word – Jesus. (John 1:14)

Hebrews 11:1 tell us: **Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.** Your FAITH is the certainty, the actual FABRIC of the things you are hoping for, and have not yet seen manifest in your life. Faith is being SURE of, with certainty, that the unseen things for which you hope, WILL become seen! Romans 1:17 tells us: **For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.**

Faith is simply trusting God to do what His Word says He will do, if you are obedient to what He has asked you to do. We have already established that without faith, we cannot please God (Heb. 11:6), so how can we obtain the necessary faith by which we are to live victorious lives pleasing to the Lord? Romans chapter 10 verse 17 tells us that: **"faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."** So, faith is developed by knowing the Word of God and acting upon it. God's Word produces faith, which in turn produces love, healing, prosperity, wisdom, a healthy body, soul and spirit.

Faith and fear work in a similar way, but produce opposite results. Faith follows on the hearing of the Word of God. Fear follows on the hearing of the "word" of this world –Satan's lies. Faith comes when we think and meditate on the Word of God. Fear comes when we think and dwell upon the lies of Satan and react upon them. The very worst thing you can do in any given situation, is react in fear. Never let fear be your motivation for your action.

In Matthew **chapter 14,** we find an excellent example of faith verses fear. The disciples were out at sea in a boat when Jesus came walking towards them on the water, and the Word tells us that they were afraid. **But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. (Matt. 14:27)** Once Peter recognised that it was Jesus walking on the water, he desired to go Him , **And He said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth *His* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. (Matt.14:29-32)**

The Lord simply said **'Come'** to Peter, so Peter climbed out of the boat and began to walk towards Jesus, and was doing very well, then we read in verse 30: **"But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, and cried out "Lord, save me".** Why did Peter sink? The word tells us that it was when he saw the boisterous wind, that he became afraid. Peter walked on the water by supernatural power – by faith in the **Word of his Lord Jesus who said to him, 'Come'!** But when FEAR gripped him, his faith was attacked, fear took control and he failed. Had he resisted the fear and kept his eyes on Jesus; had he stayed in faith and continued to trust the Lord, fear would have been overcome, but he submitted to it.

Faith operates in exactly the same way, but brings about a completely different set of results, so use the **"sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph. 6:7)** in order to resist Satan at every turn. Hold high your "**shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one" (Eph. 6:16).**

You may have found yourself at some time or another in one or more of the following, or similar situations that play on your imagination. 1. Your daughter and friends have gone to the beach. 2. Your husband is out late, is driving home in the middle of a storm with thunder and lightning. 3. Your mother lives alone in a flat in a dangerous area. 4. Your son is working overseas and you cannot contact him and have not heard from him in some time. Satan will immediately take advantage of the situation and attack with fear, suggesting that your daughter is going to drown, your husband is going to have an accident, your mother is going to be attacked, and your son is being influenced by drug addicts. RESIST THE TEMPTATION TO BELIEVE SATAN'S LIES, AND TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR THOUGHTS IMMEDIATELY! DO NOT ALLOW FEAR TO CONTROL YOUR THINKING. We are instructed in God's Word to remove from of our minds, any thought that does NOT line up with His promises and His will for our lives. **(2 Cor. 10:5) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.** Simply refuse point-blank to be fearful, by entertaining those thoughts, letting Satan know that he has not succeeded in scaring you with his negative suggestions and lies. Proclaim out loud - boldly and loudly, that God has said that He will never leave you or forsake you, or your loved ones, and believe it! I ask you this, who is more able and better equipped than your Heavenly Father, to protect and undertake for you and for your loved ones when you

pray and put them in His care? And you CAN put your FULL trust in Him, because He is faithful!
So, just close your eyes and in your mind's eye see your daughter at the beach, your husband in his car, your mother in her flat, your son overseas, and pray out aloud: ***"Heavenly Father, thank you that you have not given me a spirit of fear, but one of power and of love and of self-control – of a sound mind. I just want to say that I trust You totally and completely for the protection of (say the name of your loved one), and I commit him/her into Your care and I release him/her from the bonds of fear with which I bound him/her. I thank You for it now, In Jesus precious Name."***

You can now be assured that your loved one is in the very best of hands, so leave him/her there. Trust the Lord completely and refuse to entertain any further anxious thoughts concerning him/her. Resist the devil and his negative suggestions, and he will flee! (James 4:7)

It is **your choice** to make a conscious decision to give place either to faith or to fear, there is no middle road! You choose, because God has given you a free will, and He won't make the choice for you. So make your choice! It is a simple matter of deciding! The Lord however, encourages you to choose LIFE. **(Deut. 30:19) I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:**
Words you speak convey what is in your heart**.** Jesus said in **Matt. 12:34…… for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.** Do you find yourself saying: *"I'm AFRAID I cannot do that.", "I'm AFRAID the answer is no.", "I'm AFRAID that is true.", "I'm DEAD scared!", "Over my DEAD body", "Don't go without a jersey – I'm AFRAID you'll catch a cold",*

You have just spoken the language of fear and death. We don't stop to think about what we are actually saying! You may say that you are only warning your children, but there's a better way of doing this. When it comes to possible danger, caution your children in a constructive and positive way. Explain how changes in temperature affect the body – don't teach him through the FEAR of catching a cold!. Teach him about motor cars and he will be watchful and responsible when driving. Do not teach through FEAR, but through KNOWLEDGE.
We have a wonderful promise from God in: **Isaiah 54:14: In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee.**

Since faith is the antidote for fear, and faith is increased by absorbing and acting upon the Word of God, (Rom. 10:17), it is the Word that must become our medicine and our daily bread.
THROUGH SPENDING TIME WITH THE WORD OF GOD, YOUR PATTERN OF THOUGHT IS TRANSFORMED, YOUR MIND IS RENEWED FROM FEAR TO FAITH, FROM DEATH TO LIFE. **(Rom 12:2) And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.** It is every Christian's individual responsibility to make sure that he/she renews his/her mind to think in line with God's Word! What does GOD SAY IN HIS WORD about a given situation? Then, our attitude must be, "God said it, I believe it, and that settles it!" Our thoughts should not be according to "what the World says" , or "how I feel about it",– but rather, "what does God say about this matter in His Word?"

Then we will be able to say as the Psalmist said in **Psalm 118:6-7: "The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid, The Lord is with me; He is my helper. I will look in triumph on my enemies!"** This scripture makes you realise that without a doubt, the Lord is on your side SO YOU WILL NOT FEAR! Fear has no place in your life, because the Lord says He is with you, and is your Helper!

In the three above scriptures, see what God has promised you! He has established you in righteousness - therefore you do not have to fear. Terror will not come near you! God is with you! He has redeemed you! GOD PROMISES THIS ALL TO YOU IN HIS WORD, and we read in: **Num 23:19: God *is* not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do *it?* or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?**

God cannot lie, - what He says ,He means, and what He promises He'll do, He backs up and makes good His Word. So as a child of God, you CAN live a life free from fear!

If you have a fear of illness, remember that **Peter 2:24 says: … by His (Jesus) wounds you have been healed.** If you have a fear of poverty, remember that **Phil 4:19 says: And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.** Every fear that Satan tries to bring upon you to destroy you, has a counteracting promise from God that brings assurance, peace, victory, liberty and Life. You may not know exactly where that promise can be found in the Word, but you may be sure that it is there, and this is why it is so important for you to read and study the Word, because through it you will have victory and know God's peace that passes all understanding.

Uit ons Kantoor

Geliefdes in Jesus,

Geliefdes in die Here Jesus,
Sonder enige twyfel is die bekendste skrif in die Bybel **Joh. 3:16: Want so lief het God die wêreld gehad, dat Hy sy eniggebore Seun gegee het, sodat elkeen wat in Hom glo, nie verlore mag gaan nie, maar die ewige lewe kan hê.** Hierdie vers dra aan ons die ongelooflike liefde van God oor, wat bereid was om Sy enigste Seun vir die sondige mensdom te offer sodat ek en jy, deur in Hom te glo, van ons sondes vergewe kon word en met ons Heilige Hemelse Vader versoen kon word, Sy seuns en dogters kon word! Die verskriklike koste vir die Vader en vir Jesus, wat die uiterste prys betaal het sodat dit volbring kon word, kan nooit ten volle deur ons menslike verstand begryp word nie. Al wat ons individueel kan doen is om Hom daagliks te dank vir Sy wonderlike barmhartigheid en genade en vir Sy onmeetlike onverdiende liefde vir ons.
Baie Christene, selfs die opregste, het nie die volle prentjie van die doodstryd wat dit Jesus gekos het om die verlossing van die mensdom te volbring nie. Toe Hy aan die kruis gesê het, "Dit is volbring", het Hy Sy vlees gegee om heeltemal vermink te word deur wonde wat Hom toegedien is, en het tot die laaste druppel van Sy kosbare, heilige bloed gegee om vir ons verlossing te betaal. Jesaja, die profeet het tot die fynste besonderheid geprofeteer wat aan die kruis sou plaasvind, en die rede waarom. Dit is belangrik dat ons sy verslag in Jesaja hoofstuk 53: 1 – 10 lees om ons weereens te herinner aan die prys wat deur Jesus, God se Lam, 750 jaar later betaal sou word.
Op die 14de dag van die 7de maand 1984, is die Stanger Christelike Sentrum aan die Here toegewy, en gedurende die diens, waartydens nagmaal bedien is, en met groot agting en in opregte nederigheid, het ek die Here hierdie vraag gevra: "Wat het van die krag van die Vroeë Kerk geword, want Jesus is dieselfde gister, vandag en tot in ewigheid?" (Heb. 13 :8) En ek het die stil sagte stem van die Here hoor antwoord: "Ek het dit aan die Kerk op 'n silwer bord gegee, en hulle weet nie hoe om dit te gebruik nie." Ek het opgekyk en die nagmaal elemente op silwer borde voor my gesien, en ek het dadelik geweet dat die Here my gebed beantwoord het, my uitroep tot Hom, en het aan my die sleutel gegee waar die krag van die Evangelie belê was.
Ons lees in **1 Kor. 11: 23-26: Want ek het van die Here ontvang wat ek ook aan julle oorgelewer het, dat die Here Jesus in die nag waarin Hy verraai is, brood geneem het; en nadat Hy gedank het, het Hy dit gebreek en gesê: Neem, eet; dit is my liggaam wat vir julle gebreek word; doen dit tot my gedagtenis. Net so ook die beker ná die ete, met die woorde: Hierdie beker is die nuwe testament in my bloed; doen dit, so dikwels as julle daaruit drink, tot my gedagtenis. Want so dikwels as julle hierdie brood eet en hierdie beker drink, verkondig julle die dood van die Here totdat Hy kom.**
Die doel van die deelname aan die Vlees en Bloed van Jesus wanneer ons nagmaal gebruik is om in herinnering te bring wat Hy vir ons op Golgota gedoen het, en ons moet DIKWELS daaraan deelneem totdat Hy terugkom. Die Skrif sê: **Want so DIKWELS as julle hierdie brood eet en hierdie beker drink .....** Ons lees in Handelinge 2:46: **En DAG vir DAG het hulle eendragtig volhard in die tempel en van huis tot huis brood gebreek en hulle voedsel met blydskap en eenvoudigheid van hart geniet.**
Daarin lê die KRAG VAN GOD en van nou af die krag van elke dissipel van Jesus vandag. **(Rom. 1:16) Want ek skaam my nie oor die evangelie van Christus nie, want dit is 'n krag van God tot redding vir elkeen wat glo, eerste vir die Jood en ook vir die Griek.** Sy koms is naby, en, op die manier, moet ons Sy dood verkondig totdat Hy kom. Die Here het onlangs, nie net die belangrikheid van hierdie noodsaaklike boodskap in hierdie laaste dae op my hart gelê nie, maar ook die noodsaaklikheid om dit in ons lewens toe te pas. Ek is deur die Heilige Gees gedwing om dit in hierdie brief met julle te deel.
Ons wil elkeen van julle bedank vir jul liefde en ondersteuning deur gebed en finansies wat ons in staat stel om aan te hou uitreik na die verlorenes in tronke, op die grootpaaie en sypaaie met die wonderlike en kragtige boodskap van die Evangelie van ons Here Jesus Christus.
Wees verseker van ons waardering, ons liefde en gebede.

Meg en die Gebedspan

Skatkis

U sal 'n standvastige gesindheid in volle vrede bewaar, want hulle vertrou (mind is stayed; Eng. vertaling) op U (Jes.26:3).

Hierdie vers beteken nie dat ons elke dag vir 24 uur aan Jesus moet dink nie, alhoewel dit wonderlik sou wees indien ons dit kon doen, maar die woord "stayed" beteken hier: ophou, rus, steun op en aanhou.Met ander woorde, wanneer ons in geloof vasstaan in Jesus en op Sy Woord, kan ons volkome vrede hê. Ons is nie langer verward of vol twyfel nie, die twee dinge wat die vyand van ons siele lief is om te gebruik om "die mat van geloof, onder ons voete uit te ruk!"**Wat het ons nodig om vas te staan? Wat gee ons hierdie vrede? Die volkome versekering dat ons lewens veilig in Sy hande is; dat Hy in beheer is maak nie saak hoe chaoties dinge lyk nie, want Hy het gesê: Hy werk ALLE dinge ten goede vir die wat Hom lief het; dat niemand ons uit Sy hande kan ruk nie of ons van Hom of Sy liefde kan skei nie en dat ons eind bestemming verseker is! Ons kan dan onder Sy hand rus in en deur alle omstandighede en ophou om te spartel.**

Dus liewe vriende, vandag is die dag om hierdie waarhede te oordink en jy sal daardie vrede vind wat alle verstand te bowe gaan.