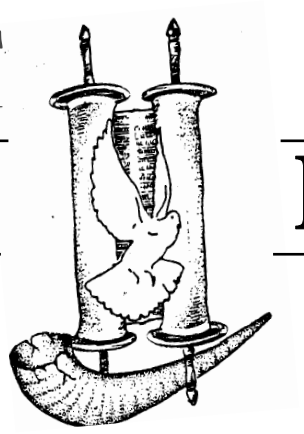
GELOOF FAITH

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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Genesing vir die Liggaam

Hy het self ons sondes in sy liggaam aan die kruis gedra. Daardeur is ons vir die sondes dood en kan ons lewe in gehoorsaamheid aan die wil van God. Deur sy wonde is julle genees (1 Pet. 2:24).

Aan die kruis het Jesus ons sondes in Sy eie liggaam geneem, wat die sonde offer geword het. Hy het die vloek wat ons verdien het op Homself, in Sy liggaam aan die kruis geneem. sodat ons van die sonde verlos kon word. Die Skrif sê ook: ***"Hy het ons krankhede op Hom geneem en ons siektes gedra" (Matt. 8:17)*** in Sy eie liggaam, ***"sodat ons deur Sy wonde genees kon word"(1 Pet. 2:24).*** Volgens God het die vergifnis van ons sondes alreeds plaasgevind; reeds gedoen.

Dit is interessant om daarop te let dat die Nuwe Testament genesing nie in die toekoms plaas nie, maar in die verlede. Ons is genees sedert die dood van Jesus, **"deur Wie se wonde julle genees *is"*** *(reeds gedoen)*. Genesing is klaar voorsien. Christene vra soms: "*Hoe kan ek weet dat dit God se wil is om my te genees?"* Die antwoord is gewoonlik: "As jy 'n toegewyde Christen is, verlos deur die bloed van Jesus, vra jy die verkeerde vraag. Die vraag is, hoe kan ek die genesing verkry, wat God reeds vir my voorsien het?" God se doel is om ons volkome in stand te hou: gees, siel en liggaam, soos Paulus gesê het: **"En mag Hy, die God van die vrede, julle volkome heilig maak, en mag julle gees en siel en liggaam geheel en al onberispelik bewaar word by die wederkoms van onse Here Jesus Christus!" (1Thes. 5:23)**

Losgekoop

Aan die kruis het Jesus alles wat boos was, wat ons ooit gedoen het, op Hom geneem. Ons is op ons beurt volkome vergewe en losgekoop van die mag van wat boos is.

In Hom (Jesus) het ons die verlossing deur sy bloed, die vergifnis van die misdade na die rykdom van sy genade (Efs.1:7). Wanner ons vergifnis van sondes het, het ons verlossing; is ons verlos. Verlos beteken "om terug te

(Vervolg op bls. 2)

(Vervolg vanaf bls. 1)

koop" of "los te koop". Deur met Sy bloed te betaal, as 'n offer in ons plek, het Hy ons terug gekoop van Satan vir God.

In **Rom.7** sê Paulus iets wat nie altyd vir mense duidelik is, wat nie bekend is met die kultuur van sy tyd nie: **maar ek is vleeslik, verkoop onder die sonde.** Onthou dat die frase *"verkoop onder die sonde"* handel oor die Romeinse mark. Iemand wat as 'n slaaf verkoop is, moes op 'n blok staan en van 'n posisie agter hom is 'n spies oor sy kop uitgehou. Daarom het Paulus gesê: "*Ek is vleeslik, verkoop onder die spies van my sonde, wat oor my kop gehou is.* Ek het geen opsies, ek is te koop".

Wanneer 'n persoon 'n slaaf is het hy geen keuses nie. Dus wanner twee vroue in dieselfe mark verkoop is, maak die eienaar die een 'n kok en die ander een 'n prostituut. Dieselfde is die waarheid met ons as sondaars. Ons mag goeie, fatsoelike sondaars wees en neersien op prostitute en verslaafdes. Dit is egter die eienaar van die slaaf wat besluit oor die diens van die slaaf.

Die goeie nuus is dat Jesus by die slawemark ingestap het en gesê het: "Ek sal haar koop; Ek sal hom koop. Satan, Ek het die prys betaal. Hierdie is nou My seun en dogter." Dit is verlossing, en dit kom slegs deur vergifnis van sondes.

Genesing Deur Vergifnis

Welgeluksalig is die mens aan wie die Here die ongeregtigheid nie toereken nie en in wie se gees geen bedrog is nie (Ps. 32:2).

Om vergifnis te ontvang moet ons volkome eerlik met God wees – nie ons sondes bedek of verskonings daarvoor te soek nie of enigiets terug te hou nie. Verwysend na toe hy skuldig bevind is aan egbreuk en moord in die saak van Batseba, het Dawid aangegaan in sy Psalm, **Toe ek geswyg het, het my gebeente uitgeteer in my gebrul die hele dag; want u hand was dag en nag swaar op my; my murg het verander soos deur somergloed.**

My sonde het ek U bekend gemaak, en my ongeregtigheid het ek nie bedek nie. Ek het gesê: Ek wil aan die Here my oortredinge bely; en Ú het die ongeregtigheid van my sonde vergewe (verse 3 – 5).

Net soos baie mense het Dawid geweier om sy sonde te erken en probeer voorgee dat dit nooit gebeur het nie en dit weggesteek. Hy was egter die hele tyd soos 'n man met 'n brandende koors. Sy krag was getap en sy gebeente uitgeteer. Onvergewe sonde kan fisiese gevolge hê.

Vergifnis Wanneer Ons Vergewe

In die Bergpredikasie het Jesus ons geleer: **"en vergeef ons ons skulde, soos ons ook ons skuldenaars vergewe" (Matt 6:12).** Met ander woorde sê hierdie versoek, "vergewe ons soos ons ander vergewe". Onthou dat in dieselfde hoeveelheid jy ander vergewe, God jou sal vergewe. As jy ander volkome vergewe sal God jou ook totaal sal vergewe. As jy ander egter net gedeeltelik vergewe, sal God jou ook net gedeeltelik vergewe. Een hoofrede waarom baie Christene se gebede nie beantwoord word nie is omdat hulle nie ander vergewe nie, gewoonlik een bepaalde persoon.

Is ons gewillig om te vergewe? Ons mag dink, *ek weet nie of ek kan nie.* God mag ook sê: Ek weet nie of Ek kan nie. Dit is tyd dat ons moet besluit. Vergifnis is nie 'n emosie nie; dit is 'n besluit. Ek noem dit, skeur jou skuldbewys op. Iemand skuld ons dalk dertig duisend rand, maar ons kan God

(Vervolg op Bl. 3)

ses miljoen rand skuld. As ons wil hê dat Hy Sy skuldbewys moet opskeur, moet ons eers ons skuldbewys opskeur.

Dit is God se onveranderlike wet. Dit staan in die Onse Vader Gebed. Die laaste versoek in die Onse Vader is om ons te verlos van die bose een, Satan. Ons het geen reg om vir vergifnis te bid voordat ons ander vergewe soos God wil h ê dat ons moet vergewe.

Onthou Sy Voordele

Loof die Here, O my siel, en alles wat binne-in my is, sy heilige Naam! Loof die Here, O my siel, en vergeet geeneen van sy weldade nie! (Ps.103:1-2)

Laat ons kortliks Sy voordele opnoem wat ons nie moet vergeet nie. Ses spesifieke voordele van God word in die drie volgende verse gelys:

Wat al jou ongeregtigheid vergewe, wat al jou krankhede genees, wat jou lewe verlos van die verderf, wat jou kroon met goedertierenheid en barmhartighede, wat jou siel versadig met die goeie, sodat jou jeug weer nuut word soos dié van 'n arend (verse 3-5).

God vergewe al ons ongeregtighede, genees al ons siektes, wat ons lewe verlos van die verderf, kroon ons met goedertierenheid en barmhartighede, versagig ons siel (mond) met die goeie dinge en vernuwe ons jeug soos die van 'n arend.

Ek is oortuig daarvan dat dit nie God se wil is dat mense moet oud word soos die wêreld se mense nie. Dit beteken nie dat daar nie 'n verandering met veroudering sal kom nie, maar dit beteken dat dit nie 'n tyd van mislukking, verdriet en siekte sal wees nie.

Ontsnap van die Vloek

In die soeke om van 'n vloek verlos te word, is een hoof vereiste om enige sonde waarvan jy weet te bely, hetsy van jouself of jou voorouers, want dit was dalk die sonde van jou voorouers wat jou blootgestel het, as een van hulle nageslag, aan die vloek. Alhoewel jy nie die *skuld* van hulle sonde *dra* nie, ly jy die nagevolg van hulle sonde. Om die vloek te ontvlug moet jy met die sonde deel wat jou en jou voorouers aan die vloek blootgestel het. Jy doen dit deur die sonde te bely en God te vra om dit te vergewe en uit te wis. **Spreuke 28:13** sê: **"Hy wat sy oortredinge bedek, sal nie voorspoedig wees nie; maar hy wat dit bely en laat staan, sal barmhartigheid vind."** As jy jou sonde bedek sal jy nie voorspoedig of geseën wees nie. As jy egter jou sonde bely en laat staan, sal jy God se genade en verlossing van die vloek ontvang. Weereens, jy moet ook alle ander mense vergewe. Jesus het gesê:

En wanneer julle staan en bid, vergeef as julle iets teen iemand het, sodat julle Vader wat in die hemele is, ook julle jul oortredinge mag vergewe (Mark. 11:25).

Dit is baie belangrik. Jesus sê baie duidelik dat wanneer ons onvergifnis, bitterheid of wrok in ons harte hou wanneer ons bid rig ons versperrings op teen antwoorde op ons gebede. Dit sal ons onder die vloek hou. Deur 'n wils besluit, wanner ons bid, moet ons enige soort van wrokke, bitterheid en onvergifnis teen enige persoon neerlê. In die mate wat ons ander vergewe, vergeef God ons. Indien ons vergifnis van God wil hê moet ons ander volkome vergewe. Dit is nie om super geestelik te wees nie; om ander mense te vergewe beteken wat ek noem "verligte selfbelang."

UIT ONS KANTOOR

Geliefdes in Jesus,

Ons as gelowiges, is nie in die duister aangaande die feit dat ons in die laaste dae van die eindtyd leef nie, soos in die Bybel voorspel is! Ons kan net rondom ons kyk om die tekens van die laaste dae van die eindtye, volgens God se profetiese Woord, te sien! Om die dringendheid van die tye te herken, is een ding, maar vir ons om te weet wat om met hierdie inligting te doen en hoe om daarop en daarvolgens te reageer, is `n ander saak!
Ek glo dat daar vier sake is wat as die belangrikste eindtyd prioriteite beskou kan word, en ek wil dit net kortliks noem.

Prioriteit nommer een is Jesus se bevel aan Sy dissipels – Sy laaste woorde voordat Hy opgevaar het na die regterhand van Sy Vader in Mark. 16:15-16: En Hy het vir hulle gesê: Gaan die hele wêreld in en verkondig die evangelie aan die ganse mensdom. Hy wat glo en hom laat doop, sal gered word; maar hy wat nie glo nie, sal veroordeel word.
Ons behoort na die verlorenes uit te reik soos nooit tevore nie. Die tyd is kort, en enigeen wat nog nie Jesus as hul persoonlike Verlosser aangeneem het nie, gaan `n aaklige ewigheid tegemoed. Laat hierdie ons eerste prioriteit wees. Bid vir die verlorenes, julle verlore familie, vriende, bure ens. Reik uit na hulle met die Evangelie in woord en daad. Gee aan hulle `n boek, wat vir hulle van die Here vertel. Reik na hulle uit met die Goeie Nuus dat Jesus red, genees, verlos en in hul behoeftes sal voorsien. Die Bybel vertel in Rom. 11:25: Want ek wil nie hê, broeders, dat julle hierdie verborgenheid nie moet weet nie, sodat julle nie eiewys mag wees nie: dat die verharding ten dele oor Israel gekom het totdat die volheid van die heidene ingegaan het. Daar is `n bepaalde tyd in God se plan waartydens die heidene (nie Jode) God se plan van verlossing in Jesus kan ontvang. Dan sal Hy die Jode se oë open en hul harte versag en hulle sal Jesus as hul Messias ontvang. (Lees die hele hoofstuk van Romeine 11).

Hierdie bring ons dan by die tweede prioriteit. Ons moet vir God se land Israel bid, en vir die Joodse volk. God belowe om diegene te seën wat vir Israel seën en die nasies te oordeel wat teen Israel is. Die Bybel vertel aan ons dat ons, as heidene, ver van God af was, sonder hoop, omdat God met die Jode Sy verbonde gemaak het, aan hulle is die Woord van God deur die profete en uitverkore mans in die Ou Testament, gegee. Jesus die Messias is `n Jood. Ons is baie dank verskuldig, aan die Joodse volk. Ons lees in Ef. 2:12: Dat julle in diè tyd sonder Christus was, vervreemd van die burgerskap van Israel en vreemdelinge ten aansien van die verbonde van die belofte, sonder hoop en sonder God in die wêreld. As ons deur God geseën wil wees, moet ons die land Israel en volk seën, bid vir die vrede van Jerusalem (Ps. 122:6) en moet nooit vergeet dat as heidense gelowiges in die Joodse Messias, Jesus Christus, ons wortels Hebreeus is.
`n Derde prioriteit is die gelykenis wat deur Jesus in Matt. Hoofstuk 25 vanaf vers 31 tot 46 vertel is. Dit handel oor die hongeriges, naaktes en siekes. Dit is interessant om daarop te let dat Jesus hierdie gelykenis vertel het net voordat Hy verraai en gekruisig is. Dit beklemtoon beslis die belangrikheid van diè gelykenis. Regdeur die Bybel bewys ons Hemelse Vader Sy besorgdheid vir die weduwee, die weeskind en die vreemdeling. Hy is `n genadige God en verwag van Sy kinders om dieselfde genade en meegevoel te betoon, asook om te gee, net soos Hy maak. Jakobus stel dit as volg in Jak.2 verse 15-16: As daar nou 'n broeder of suster naak is en aan die daaglikse voedsel gebrek het, en een uit julle sou vir hulle sê: Gaan heen in vrede, word warm, word versadig, maar julle gee hulle nie wat vir die liggaam nodig is nie – wat baat dit? Dan skryf Jes. ook in hoofstuk 58 vers 7, waar hy praat van die vas wat God verwag: Is dit nie dat jy jou brood breek vir hom wat honger het, en ellendiges, swerwelinge in die huis inbring nie? As jy iemand sien wat naak is, dat jy hom klee, en jou vir jou eie vlees nie verberg nie? Lees Jes. 58 verse 1 tot 12. Hoe wonderlik sal dit nie wees, wanneer ons eendag saam met ons Koning in die hemel is, om Hom aan ons te hoor sê, Voorwaar Ek sê vir julle, vir sover julle dit gedoen het aan een van die geringstes van hierdie broeders van My, het julle dit aan My gedoen.
`n Vierde prioriteit in hierdie eindtye, is dat ons voorbereid moet wees vir die koms van ons Here Jesus Christus op die wolke. Ons moet gereed wees om ons Bruidegom in die lug te ontmoet, wanneer die geluid van die trompet gehoor word (1 Kor. 15:52 en 1 Thess. 4:15-17). Elke Bruid neem tyd en wend `n poging aan ter voorbereiding vir haar huwelik en ons, as die Bruid van Christus behoort opgewonde onsself reg te maak vir hierdie groot dag! Dit gaan alles oor heiligmaking en ons lees in 1 Thess. 5:23: En mag Hy, die God van die vrede, julle volkome heilig maak, en mag julle gees en siel en liggaam geheel en al onberispelik bewaar word by die wederkoms van onse Here Jesus Christus! Die Woord vertel aan ons dat ons nie die dag of uur weet van Jesus se wederkoms nie, en dit is nog meer rede vir ons om altyd gereed te wees!

My gebed is dat ons Hemelse Vader, in hierdie laaste dae, ons aanhoudend sal herinner aan hierdie deurslaggewende sake.
Ons liefde en dankbaarheid gaan uit na julle almal en ons dank julle vir jul gebedes, ondersteuning en getrouheid, wat ons in die diens van ons Hemelse Vader en ons Here Jesus Christus hou. As dit die wil van God is, het ons ons voorgeneem om ferm en onwrikbaar in ons diens aan Hom te staan totdat Hy kom, en met julle liefde en aanmoediging is ons `n span!!!
Mag die Here u ieder en elk oorvloedig seën.
Liefde groete in die wonderlike Naam van Jesus Christus.

Meg en die Gebedspan

THE ACCUSOR

Satan is also known as the accuser of the brethren, so let us look at him in this role as "the accuser of the brethren" as described in Rev. 12:10, which reads… "**For the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night**.

We understand "brethren" to be born-again believers, Children of God, those **who have believed in their hearts unto righteousness, and confessed with their mouth unto salvation that Jesus Christ is Lord,** according to Rom. 10:10.
As we have already discussed, the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Satan are locked in fierce battle which is destined to end in Christ's triumphant return to this earth. But, sadly it is obvious that many Christians are not adequately prepared or equipped for this spiritual battle and are therefore unable to stand in victory against the enemy. This is due partly to fear and partly to ignorance of the enemy's strategy and in addition to that, they are unaware of the power and authority they have in Jesus Christ.

We although we may be aware of the more obvious ways that Satan uses to get to us in his quest to destroy us, such as poverty, sin and sickness, few Christians are conscious of his more subtle ways to penetrate and destroy our resistance. When we read Rev. 12:10 again, we see that the devil accuses the brethren *day and night*, in other words continuously, without stopping. If we look around us in the world today, we find the same spirit very much at work amongst men, even Christians. There is so much hatred, distrust and suspicion *amongst the brethren!*

Jesus warned us in Matt. 24:10: **And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.**
Here, Jesus describes the plan of Satan to divide and scatter Christians during the last days. Also read Matt. 18:7:
Woe unto the world because of offences! (temptations) for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!

The word "offend" (tempt) has the following meanings:
To set a trap for
To put a stumbling block in the way
To tempt unto sin.
To cause that one person mistrusts and leaves another person whom he should trust and obey.
To see in another person something, you object to and which hinders you honouring his authority.
On analysing these five meanings of "*temptation*" or "*stumbling-block*", we realise that their function is to mislead us into believing the worst about ourselves, others and God. And Satan's ambition is to bring man to this very point. He does it so subtly. He makes sure that any accusation against us, or one we may have against somebody else, is partly true. He also uses this tactic to magnify out of all proportion, any small defect or failure that may exist through exaggeration or misrepresentation. A bit of truth gives credibility to an outright lie. A Scriptural illustration of this is found in Matt. 26:60 to 61: …. **At last came two false witnesses, and said: "This fellow said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.** "This is a distortion of the truth. The truth is: **Jesus answered and said unto them: Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up ….. But He spake of the temple of His body. (Joh. 2:19 and 21)**
This is exactly the way in which Satan twists the truth, and he never grows weary of doing this, because he knows that it works! He is in fact more active today than ever before, because his time is getting short. He takes 10 percent truth and mixes it with 90 percent untruth, and successfully cause ill feelings, distrust, hatred, and chaos, where there should be love, trust and co-operation.
He works in this manner in families, marriages, fellowships, and in fact in every facet of life.

Look at the following verses of Scripture if you want to know the real character of Satan:
The thief (the devil) cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill and to destroy: I am come, (Jesus) that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. (John 10:10)

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He (the devil) was a murderer from the beginning and abode not in the truth, because there is not truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own for he is a liar, and the father of it. (John 8:44)

Be sober, be vigilant: because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. (1 Pet. 5:8)

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. (Acts 10:38). Note in this verse of Scripture that Jesus was doing good and healing people, whereas the devil was the oppressor, aimed at destruction through sickness.

We read this same truth in the book of Job, which is considered to be the oldest book in the Bible. It is generally believed by misinformed Christians that God took away all of Job's possessions and that is why he said in **Job 1:21….. the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.** However, Job only thought that it was God who had taken away and brought disaster upon him, when in fact it was actually Satan who was the culprit, because 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. (Read** our book The Christian and Job for an in-depth study of Job.)

OUR SPIRITUAL BATTLE

The Bible tells us in 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 **For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:**

2 Cor. 10:4: (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

This is saying that our warfare is not waged in the physical realm, but in the spiritual, and therefore we have to fight it using spiritual weapons. These spiritual weapons that are mighty through God, are described for us in Ephesians chapter 6 starting from verse 10 and reading through to verse 18. They are all read the following pertaining to our spiritual warfare: **Eph 6:10: Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;**

The details and use of the spiritual armour and weaponry described in this passage of scripture, will be explained more fully in chapter 3, and we have the assurance that if we use these weapons in the fight against the enemy and we stand fast and persevere, VICTORY WILL BE OURS! We shall OVERCOME, because we are MORE THAN CONQUERORS (Rom. 8:37). However this is no minor combat in which we can afford to be passive, as Satan will take full advantage of passive believers. In fact, he does just that every day all over the world! As I have already said, this battle raging between the Kingdom of Light and the Kingdom of Darkness is physical and it is invisible. *Storms continually rage* in man's thoughts, emotions, and relationships with others, *aggravated by the enemy*, "the accuser of the brethren. We must be alert to his tactics!!

Because Jesus' return is so close, and Satan's time is running out, he is trying to do as much damage as possible whilst he can. He knows that his destination is the Lake of Fire, and he is not giving up without a fight.

RESISTING THE ACCUSER

When Satan begins to bombard your mind with negative thoughts about yourself, your neighbour and God, let us look at a few practical ways in which to overcome him.

When he starts accusing you of your failures and shortcomings, always remember that there usually is a grain of truth in his accusation. Nobody is perfect or without shortcomings. God knows all there is to know about you, and He still loves you! However, He loves you too much to leave you as you are and is busy perfecting you into the likeness of His Son Jesus. He knew about your temper when He saved you and He knows how hard you are trying to overcome it in your own strength. His GRACE (grace is God's power and ability made available to us, although we do not deserve it) is sufficient and His power is made perfect in us! You are IN CHRIST and *therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. (Rom.8:1)*

Praise the Lord! Praise Him often in song and in a loud voice, giving Him thanks in all circumstances, Satan retreats swiftly when you worship the Lord!

When you sin, be quick to confess it honestly, with a repentant heart and receive God's forgiveness according to 1 John 1:9 which declares: **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** Then carry on being an enthusiastic and diligent Christian. Do not sit in a corner and wallow in self-pity. A trick of the devil is to make you stumble in a moment of weakness, and then to throw accusations at you such as, "There you are: you've done it again!

You are a fool! You are not a Christian or you would not have done those things. Aren't you ashamed of yourself? You will never be successful – why don't you just give up your entire Christian walk?"

That's the enemy speaking and don't fall for his lies! Remember, the price for your sins has already been paid, even for the sin you have just committed. Christ died for ALL your sins! There is also a vast difference between being guilty and simply having feelings of guilt. Satan will try and tell you, that because you were strongly tempted, you are just as guilty as you would have been if you had committed the sin. He says: "You were thinking of doing it, and that is just as bad as having done it, therefore you are guilty!" That is nonsense; you are not guilty because you were tempted!

Even Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness, and yet He did not yield (Heb. 4:15). Sometimes people feel guilty because they couldn't live up to the unreasonable expectations of others. Satan then increases their feelings of guilt and condemnation. But the fact that we FEEL guilty is not a sign that we ARE guilty, and is no reason for us to believe the lies of the enemy.

The Holy Spirit is restoring bonds of love and loyalty among believers, much to Satan's disgust. Tolerance and trustworthiness are the basic characteristics that God requires in His Body on earth. Satan realises that the more the believers are submitted one to another in love, honouring and preferring each other, the stronger they are, especially against his lies that cause division and destruction. While we are endeavouring to support one another and strengthen relationships, the enemy works out his plans of how to break this down by continuously pointing out the weaknesses and shortcomings of our neighbours, to the point where there is a lack of trust.

We must make allowances for one another. We need to realise that there is not one single perfect man, woman, husband, wife, father, mother, preacher, pastor, child or young person. And something else we must realise is that the closer or more intimate the relationship is, the easier it is to notice one another's faults. It is easier to say: "I don't want to get involved", but we must realise that this attitude is basically selfish and unbiblical. It is important for us as Christians to be involved. Being isolated from your fellow believers and not being part of their lives robs them and robs us of God's blessings. Love and trust are attributes of Father God and dispel fear and distrust, which come from the evil one. Fear and distrust are not from God and do not serve His purposes. The gift of suspicion is not from God. God is not an accuser: *He restores and reconciles!*

We have been warned and now know that, **Our enemy goes about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour,** according to 1 Pet. 5:8. Any relationship becoming involved with other people always contains an element of risk, even pain. But in the long run the fruit of relationships which have been tested in the areas of loyalty, liberty, and trust, is very precious and to the glory of God.

Satan even tries at times to show God up in a bad light. But we know that he has been a liar right from the beginning when he lied to Adam and Eve by suggesting to them that God was lying!

He does the same today: he accuses God of all kinds of untruths and even cruelty (think of the lie he spreads that God puts sickness on people to teach them a lesson! We suggest you read our booklet GOD DESIRES TO HEAL YOU, to get to know the real truth). Satan wants us to doubt God's love and God's Word, and the moment we give him our ear, he'll whisper: "God doesn't really care whether you suffer or not. He will not really help you. You will perish."

Even though we have experienced so much of God's goodness in the past it is amazing how many Christians fall for satan's lies when things seem to get a bit tough. We believe Satan INSTEAD OF GOD: He is not a man that He should lie! Always keep in mind that in ALL instances God's Word is His Will and His Will for His children is that they are blessed! By an action of OUR Will, we CHOOSE to believe God.

In Heb. 13:5 God says: **I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.**
We can choose whether to believe God's promise or the devil's lie. If we choose to believe God, then we are standing on the Rock, His Word, which can never be changed, we will be filled with faith to persevere and come through victoriously. If we choose to believe the devil, we will fail completely! And that is what he wants for us.
Also keep in mind that true faith is not based or reliant on our feelings, but on the action of our will to believe God's Word. When Jesus was in the wilderness, and Satan attacked Him with lies, He overcame by trusting and believing the Word of God. Each time Jesus said to Satan: **for it is written** and then He Quoted the Word of God.
When Satan comes to you with his lies, reason as follows: God is the Creator of faith, and faith is the opposite of doubt. Therefore, doubt comes from the devil and not from God.
If we doubt God's Love and His desire to help us long enough, depression will be the result and we will act as if God is dead! I once read that when Martin Luther was severely depressed at a certain stage of his life, his wife put on black

mourning clothes and went to her husband. He of course asked her about her attire and on whose behalf, she was wearing it. Her answer was. "You act as if God was dead." Apparently, this dramatic performance of hers served to make Luther realise his foolishness.

We must learn to discern between the choice of the enemy and the choice of God when we are attacked. Are we hearing the voice of the accuser, or that of the Comforter? Even though we are responsible for creating adverse circumstances through our sins or mistakes, *it is still not necessary to listen to Satan's accusations.* GOD'S GRACE IS STILL THERE AND SUFFICIENT. Satan will try and reveal our sin to make us seem hopeless and defeated. The Holy Spirit confronts us gently with the same sin because He wants us to repent, and to receive forgiveness and redemption. The Lord says:

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. (Heb. 8:12)

With a grateful heart we can daily confess who we are in Christ Jesus and build up our faith and bring glory to God. I suggest you do this out loud as often as possible, but you must BELIEVE WHAT YOU SAY, otherwise it is a vain repetition of words.

I am a child of God and born-again of the incorruptible seed of the Word of God (1 Pet. 1:23)
My sins are all forgiven and I am washed by the precious Blood of Christ (1 Joh. 2:12, 1 Pet. 1:18 and 19)
I am a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17)
I am redeemed from the power of darkness and have been brought over into the kingdom of God. (Col. 1:13)
I am redeemed from the curse of the law. (Gal. 3:13
I am blessed (Gal. 3:9)
I am healed by the Stripes of Jesus (1 Pet. 2:24)
I am strong in the Lord (Eph. 6:10)
I am more than a conqueror (Rom. 8:37
I am the light of the world (Matt. 5:14)
I am the salt of the earth (Matt. 5:13)
I am the righteousness of God (2 Cor. 5:21)
I have the Greater One indwelling me, because greater is HE that is in me than he (the devil) who is in the world (1 Joh. 4:4)
I can do all things thorough Jesus who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13)
The Lord will never leave me nor forsake me (Matt. 8:20)

Testify as often as possible to others that Jesus is you Saviour and that you are a child of God and refuse steadfastly to give any place to the devil through your life, words or thought. (Eph. 4:27) Remember, God always votes in your favour, Satan votes against you, and your vote decides the issue!

Skatkis

Here Here, Sterkte van my heil, U beskut my hoof in die dag van stryd! (Ps.140:8)
En neem aan die helm van verlossing (Efs.6:17).

Ons hoofde is kwesbaar. Kwesbaar vir noodlottige beserings; fisies asook selfs geestelik.

Wanneer ons onsself aan Jesus oorgee en ons behoefte besef vir Sy verlossing, nie alleen word aan ons gegee die onmeetbare gawe van ewige lewe nie, maar ons het die voortgaande sekerheid dat ons daagliks bedek is deur Sy genade.

Die helm van verlossing is ons beskerming teen elke twyfel en pyl van die vyand. As ons Jesus hiervoor vertrou, sal elke leuen wat teen ons deur Satan gemik is, aan ons voete val. Maak nie saak hoe skuldig en onverdiend ons is nie (ons kan met ons vyand saamstem), maar ons kan hom dadelik na die Here stuur om die saak met Hom op te neem, ons Advokaat en Hemelse Vader!

Ons weet wie reeds die geveg gewen het en Sy naam is Jesus!

KENNISGEWING

Ons het 'n lys beskikbaar van boeke en Cd's met hul pryse. Indien u meer inligting verlang oor wat beskikbaar is of 'n bestelling wil plaas, kontak ons asseblief sodat ons die lys na u kan E-pos. Dit het ook volledige inligting hoe om 'n bestelling te plaas, bank inligting ens.

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