

## **It is God Which Worketh in You (1) His Divine Power**

One of the most amazing truths we learn from the Word of God regarding those of us who have trusted the Lord Jesus as our Saviour, is that God actually dwells in us (1<sup>st</sup> Jn. 4:12, 15). We also learn that Christ dwells in us (Rom. 8:10; Eph. 3:17-19; Col. 1:27), and that the Holy Spirit dwells in us (Jn. 14:17; 1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 3:16; 2<sup>nd</sup> Tim. 1:14).

Another amazing truth is that God is working in us. When we think of God working in us, we are reminded of the fact that is the exceeding greatness of the power of God that raised Christ from the dead and set Him far above all principality and power and might which is working in us and for us (Eph. 1:19-21).

Paul's desires for the saints at Ephesus included that they might be strengthened with might by the Holy Spirit in the inner man, that Christ might dwell in their hearts by faith, and that they might know the love of Christ which passes knowledge and that they might filled with all the fulness of God (Eph. 3:15-19). What a tremendous thought; to be filled with all the fulness of God!

Since our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit (1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 3:16, 6:19), would it not be wonderful to be filled with the glory of God just as the house of the Lord was filled with the glory of God (Ex. 40:34-35; 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 8:11)? This hardly sounds possible, but it is in that particular context that Paul wrote, *"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us"* (Eph. 3:20).

We have all that is necessary to live a life filled to the brim with godliness, growing in the understanding and knowledge of the love of Christ, strengthened by Him and glorifying God, through the power that is working in us. Peter wrote, *"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue"* (2<sup>nd</sup> Pet. 1:3).

We are also equipped with divine power to fight the spiritual warfare that we are engaged in daily. Paul explains, *"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"*.

We are encouraged to take unto us the whole armour of God, including having our loins girded with truth, putting on the breastplate of righteousness, taking the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. Paul exhorts us, *"be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might"* (Eph. 6:10-18).

Paul also tells us in the book of Colossians that the secret to walking worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing is found in the power that works in us, *"Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power; unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness"* (Col. 1:10-11). It is interesting to note that here Paul refers to that power as, *"his glorious power"*, or, *the power of his glory*".

God's glorious power working in us will not only enable us to walk in a way that is pleasing to Him, but will give us strength and endurance to face the difficulties of life with patience and joyfulness.

Peter tells us that the power that is working in us is able to keep us and preserve us until we are in the presence of our Lord Jesus. He wrote concerning all believers, “*Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time*” (1<sup>st</sup> Pet. 1:5).

The salvation that Peter wrote about refers to the time when we shall be saved from the very presence of sin. We have been saved from the penalty of sin, through the ransoming, redeeming blood of Christ (Eph. 1:7). We are saved daily from the power of sin (Rom. 5:10), through Christ who ever lives to make intercession for us (Heb. 7:25).

We shall be saved from the presence of sin, when the Lord Jesus returns to rapture us home into His glad presence forever (1<sup>st</sup> Thess. 4:14-18). He will transform these bodies of humiliation like unto His glorious body according to the mighty power with which He is able to subject all things to His rule (Phil. 3:21).

*God's power in salvation,  
Has ransomed us from sin;  
We are a new creation,  
Through Him who dwells within.*

*The blood of Christ our Saviour,  
Our debt of sin has paid;  
A child of God forever,  
Each ransomed one is made.*

*We live a life well-pleasing,  
By power sanctified;  
In grace and truth increasing,  
Through Jesus Christ who died.*

*Through His power sustaining,  
He'll keep us by His grace;  
Through all the days remaining,  
Until we see His face.*

*All creatures then subduing  
By His power divine;  
Our mortal frames renewing,  
Shall in His likeness shine.*  
**Bernie Payne**