

## 'NEW LIFE HEALING CENTRE'

(The Bethel)

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*Breaking into God's Plan  
& Purpose for your life*

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The Sacrifice of Christ

from

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### A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RAYMOND

When you view the cross upon which Christ was crucified what does this mean to you? And to what extent or how deep into your life does His sacrifice reflect? Jesus Christ's death upon the cross has the potential to change every area of your life for good. Your health, your emotions, your mental well-being, the events of your past and future, plus the here and now.

When you believe Christ for the forgiveness of sins, He not only does this but His sacrifice includes everything else that makes us who we are. No area of our lives can be untouched by Him and no area of our lives is to insignificant for Him to change. AMEN.

In *Colossians 1 v 11* and *Ephesians 3 v 16* we read how Paul prayed for the believers. Paul prayed for them to have spiritual strength, for the believers to be strengthened within their spirit in the inner man. For our spirits to be strong, not weak, spiritual strength, strength from God, released to us through the sacrifice of Christ empowered to us by the Spirit of God. The same power that raised Jesus from the grave, life over death. The measure of strength Paul prayed for them to receive – *Eph. 3 v 16 . . . . "according to the riches of His glory"* and *Col. 1 v 11 . . . . "according to His glorious power"*.

Listen . . . The spiritual strength that is available to us today is a 'measure' it is not according to our weaknesses nor according to our need, nor is it according to what we can think or understand, it is according to the abundance of His glory. Through Christ, the Spirit of God within us means that we have access to all that God is and has. Access to an immeasurable, inexhaustible supply of His grace, love, mercy and power that is existent in Him. The source of this strength means that our spirits are strengthened by His (God's) Spirit living within us. When we allow our spirits to be clothed by His Spirit God strengthens us. For God is able to do - . . . . exceedingly, abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us" - *Eph. 3 v 20*. We must allow the power of God to work within us. Give Him the freedom to work. Draw upon His power to work within us.

The purpose of God's supply of 'spiritual strength' is so that we will be able to withstand the onslaught of the enemy, to be able to resist temptation, to endure times of hardship, and to be victorious in affliction and in persecution. Hear what Paul told the Corinthians - "*For which cause we faint not but through our outward man perish, yet the inward man (spirit) is renewed day by day*" - *2 Cor. 4 v 16*. YES, our physical bodies are subject to weakness and decay, we can be equipped and prepared on a daily basis to walk in God's power through His Spirit working within us. We all have this available, each one of us, but it is our responsibility to draw upon it. It doesn't just flow automatically, we have to make a conscious effort to draw upon this strength, and when we do we find it is 'powerful' and it is released.

For our bodies to be physically strong we have to feed it with good food, and not only this, we need also to rest our bodies, we have to take care of it. Equally we have to care for our spiritual needs. Our spiritual strength is dependent upon God. This includes our daily drawing of strength from God through prayer, listening to God's voice, being in His presence, studying and reading His Word, and within all these aspects of our relationship with Him we draw His strength into our spirits and then apply it to our lives.

So why is it today many Christians are spiritually weak and unable to overcome the adverse circumstances in their lives? Many Christians today fail to be victorious over the power of the enemy. They fall short because they fail to draw upon God's Strength, God's Might. Instead of walking according to God's Might, God's strength, they have resulted in walking according to their own natural strength and, as you would know, their own natural strength becomes exhausted. This leads on to being in a weakened condition and hence become vulnerable to the attacks of the enemy. Being unable to resist or overcome the attacks of the enemy they have become wounded and battered.

*Proverbs 18 v 17* – let us re-read- *“The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity, but a wounded spirit who can bear”*. When a Christian's spirit has become wounded, over-whelmed, weakened or broken, they are unable to bear up under the trials, burdens and physical afflictions. There becomes a sense of emptiness, a feeling that they are at the end of their strength. They feel drained, unable to go on.

This is why it is so important for Christians who are still carrying hurts from the past to allow God to heal their wounds and restore them to a new position of strength. Jesus took this upon Himself as He was lead out to Calvary. Upon Himself He took your hurts and pains. Now is the time to allow God to heal you. In Jesus Name . . . AMEN.