

The Power

*Discovering
the Real “Secret”
of Life*

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Discovering the Real “Secret” of Life
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Introduction

Psalm 68 reveals a secret. This secret is the key to The Power. Not earthly power. Heavenly Power. The Power to prevail over all failure and disappointment. The Power to be who God created you to be.

What is The Power? How do we obtain it? What are the problems in getting and keeping The Power? What are the Keys to using The Power? The chapters will answer these questions in order. Chapter Two

contains the secret of The Power. You will never again be the same if you breathe this secret deeply into your heart and mind.

Whereas best-selling self-help books today, such as *The Secret* by Rhonda Byrne, encourage you to seek power in and from the SELF, The Power can only be found outside of the SELF. **O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.** Jer. 10:23.

To receive The Power, prepare yourselves to go first “outside” of yourself, that you may then go “inside” of The Power. *The Power* is the truth *The Secret* can't and won't reveal. Chapter Three is dedicated to unraveling the lies that *The Secret* and other New Age books are spinning over millions of people.

The Scripture is often quoted, “. . .**when I am weak, then I am strong**” 2 Cor. 12:10. Many have wrongly focused on the “I am weak” portion without progressing to the “then I am strong.” The Power is about discovering the “then I am strong.” We are always to “be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might” Eph. 6:10. Real strength for real people from a real God. **For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to show himself strong in behalf of those whose hearts are blameless toward Him.** 2 Chr. 16:9 (Amplified).

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Chapter One

WHAT IS THE POWER?

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us
with benefits, even the God of our salvation.

Selah [pause and reflect]. Ps. 68:19.

The Power describes the daily benefits “loaded” into our lives by the Lord. Think about that. The Lord loads us with benefits every second of every day. The Hebrew word for “loaded” here carries with it a meaning of heavy loading. The Lord’s benefits are so heavy that we need The Power just to carry them. If

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we are honest, though, these benefits go largely unnoticed, unappreciated and unclaimed. King David commanded his own soul to wholeheartedly remember and declare these "loaded benefits."

Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. Ps. 103:1-5.

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These benefits take many forms, but ultimately all can be traced back to one virtue - - strength! Strength to overcome bad news and evil reports. Strength to overcome impatience. Strength to overcome frustration. Strength to overcome lukewarmness. Strength to overcome temptation. Strength to overcome anger. Strength to overcome sickness. Strength to overcome strife. Strength to overcome lack. Strength to overcome hatred. Strength to overcome sadness, broken-heartedness, disappointment and depression. Most importantly, strength to love God with all our heart, soul and might and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

One size fits all. Strength solves all these problems. God's strength, not man's strength. Man's

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strength will always fail - - always. Like man's love, man's strength will eventually bail out. The "bailing point" is when our strength quits us. Our hope, love and faith surrenders to hopelessness, lovelessness and faithlessness. We then begin to give up on relationships, opportunities, dreams and victories.

This is the essence of death - - weakness! Weak faith, weak hope, weak love, weak relationships and weak resistance to the trials of life. Here I am not speaking of the "weakness of meekness," which is a blessed state of humility where our confidence is not toward ourselves but toward God. This is the meekness which allows us to inherit the Earth (Matt. 5:5). Rather, here I am speaking of the "weakness of bleakness," a state of fear and hopelessness, which

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causes all our failures and all our miseries and ultimately all our deaths. This is the "weakness" of our own character which is always ready to bail out during times of temptation or pressure. This weakness is the result of placing our own faith, hope and love in the abilities of man - - either in ourselves or in others. This "weakness of bleakness" leaves us making excuse after excuse about the failures of our lives while our hearts continue to circle the drain of despair. The few successes we do have are sandwiched between and far outnumbered by failures and disappointments where we have bailed out due to weakness.

Recognizing your own "bailing point" in every trial or temptation is a humbling encounter, yet it is crucial

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to realize that our strength won't and can't last. This is the slingshot insight which propels our hearts into The Power of God. Just because you don't actually "bail out" in a given situation doesn't mean that you wouldn't have bailed out had the situation continued or grown worse. The point is that the strength of man is always limited while the strength of God is always unlimited. I have come to realize that my strength will never last - - not as a father, not as a husband, not as a friend, not as a son and not as a lawyer. But this realization has led me to the place of "weakness of meekness" in now recognizing how completely different and better God's strength is than mine. He literally never wearies or weakens. I always do. He never surrenders or compromises. I frequently do. He never murmurs or complains. I usually do. Defining

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the source of our strength is vital - - whether we are operating in man's strength or God's strength.

The source of our strength determines all - - "for as the man is, so is his strength" (Jdg. 8:21). Psalm 68 reveals the fate of each source of strength. Those whose source of strength is man shall "dwell in a dry land" (Ps. 68:6) "bound with chains" (Ps. 68:6) as "scattered kings" (Ps. 68:14). Contrast this with those who live in the strength of God:

**Thy God hath commanded thy strength:
strengthen, O God, that which thou hast
wrought for us. Ps. 68:28.**

Strength is not an option with the Lord. It is His

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nature. He commands His strength to us. He never leaves home without it. His strength is from everlasting to everlasting. He never lets up or lets go. He never runs away or deserts. He never surrenders - - never. He endures, perseveres and overcomes - - always with a smile, always with kindness and always with love.

Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths

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shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Is. 40:28-31.

The strength of God is a rare topic today because most people equate God's strength with destructive wrath. In other words, God's power is revealed in most people's eyes through natural disasters or personal devastations. But this couldn't be further from the truth. God doesn't want us scared of His strength. God wants us grounded and secure in His heroic strength. God is the hero and lover of our

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souls. God's strength is forever grounded in His goodness. God's strength doesn't prevail by overcoming force with force and evil with evil. God's strength overcomes evil with good - - always, only and totally. "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." Rom. 12:21. Only the strength of God can accomplish this. This was Jesus' central message in the Sermon on the Mount.

Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.

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And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away. Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do

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not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. Matt. 5:38-48.

Be perfectly strong as our Heavenly Father is perfectly strong. The Father's perfection lies in this - - He overcomes evil with good. Thus, God's strength is His relentless overcoming of evil with good. Man's strength always fails eventually because sooner or later he will return evil for evil, hatred for hatred, an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. This is why the Scriptures (Jas. 1:2-4) exhort us to develop "patience" which in the Greek is translated literally as

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“joyful endurance.” We are to develop joyful endurance because God joyfully endures. **The joy of the Lord is our strength.** Neh. 8:10. He patiently endures our rebellion knowing that His love will outlast and tenderly overcome our hate and hard-heartedness. Patience is the divine virtue by which God’s goodness overcomes evil. Man’s goodness is always conditional and temporary. It is always insecure and unstable because of fear, pride or shame. However, God’s strength is flawless and fearless. Consider the following Psalm 68 verses:

A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in his holy habitation. God setteth the solitary in families: he bringeth out those which are bound with

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chains: but the rebellious dwell in a dry land....Thou, O God, didst send a plentiful rain, whereby thou didst confirm thine inheritance, when it was weary. Thy congregation hath dwelt therein: thou, O God, hast prepared of thy goodness for the poor....Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them. Ps. 68:5-6,9-10,18.

What strength! What goodness! What love! God's goodness is always revealed in His strength. God fathers the fatherless with His strength, husbands the widows with His strength and puts the lonely in

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families with His strength. He sends plentiful rain with His strength. He even sends gifts to the rebellious with His strength so that He might dwell with them. God's strength only and always "leads captivity captive." Our inheritance is to be set free indeed by The Power of the Cross. God continually confirms this inheritance of strength no matter how weary and dull our eyes have become to it. "Let the weak say, I am strong." Joel 3:10. Our inheritance is the place of continual blessing where we dwell in the exceeding great and precious promises of God which provide us all things for life and godliness, that by these we become partakers of the divine nature of Jesus (2 Pet. 1:3-4). Let's all receive a fresh revelation of God's power for goodness as we explore our inheritance of strength over the next few chapters.

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SUMMARY

1. The Power is God's limitless strength. It never weakens. It never ceases. It never fails. It continually loads us with the benefits of salvation every second of every day: forgiveness, healings, deliverance from all forms of destruction, crowns of lovingkindness, and renewal of our youth.
2. Man's strength is always limited. It always bails out - - eventually. It always weakens - - gradually. It always surrenders - - ultimately. It always fails - - sooner or later.
3. The Power works by overcoming evil with good. The Power of God fathers the fatherless,

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husbands the widows, befriends the lonely,
sends plentiful rain, leads captivity captive,
gives gifts even to the rebellious, confirms the
inheritance of the weary, breaks all chains of
bondage and commands His strength to be
ours.

4. Key Verses:

**Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us
with benefits, even the God of our
salvation. Selah. Ps. 68:19.**

**Thy God hath commanded thy strength:
strengthen, O God, that which thou hast
wrought for us. Ps. 68:28.**

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**THE NEXT CHAPTER REVEALS THE MOST
IMPORTANT SECRET OF THE POWER - - HOW
TO GET IT!**

Chapter Two

HOW DO WE GET THE POWER?

The secret of The Power is revealed in Psalm 68:34: **“Ascribe ye strength unto God: His excellency is over Israel, and His strength is in the clouds.”**

The word “ascribe” in this passage means simply “to give or attribute.” When I read this passage recently, a lightning bolt of insight hit me. To receive The Power from God, I must first attribute The Power

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to God. In an instant, I understood why my faith fails. One by one, as I meditated on my past failures, I saw the pattern repeat itself. I saw that my heart was hard to The Power.

Even though I had believed in The Power of God as a potential in my problem situations, I honestly did not attribute The Power of God as active. Just as Physics classifies power as either potential (latent) or active (kinetic), so too does the spiritual make the same distinction. As long as power is potential, it lacks momentum into the "now." But active and kinetic power brings the confidence that momentum ushers into the present situation. Momentum into the moment means that we rely on God's active and kinetic strength which is working all things together

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for our good (Rom. 8:28).

Think about it. Who doesn't believe God has hypothetical strength? Sure, God can save me if He wants to - - somehow, someday, maybe. But this is not ascribing active and present strength to God. The difference is night and day.

When we attribute "now" strength to God, we receive "now" strength from God. This is The Power. Until we "ascribe strength unto God," we will serve a hypothetical Savior who will appear detached, distant and disinterested. The result is that we handcuff The Power with our own unbelief. Could such a thing be? Do we have the ability and freedom to block God's strength from being manifest in the earth? Yes!

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Let's consider some examples from Scriptures. The Psalmist, in describing Israel's fall in the wilderness, declared that, "they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel" (Ps. 78:41). This scripture clearly says that men have the authority to "limit" The Power of God from being displayed. Another example occurred in Jesus' ministry in Mark 6:1,5-6 where Jesus "came into his own country.... And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. And he marveled because of their unbelief." Jesus marveled because they did not "ascribe strength" to The Power in their immediate midst. He was certainly available and willing to do more works of strength, but He "could" not because they would not "ascribe strength" to Him. They did not believe in Jesus'

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active, kinetic and immediate strength. They truly limited the Holy One of Israel.

The same dynamic occurred when the Disciples feared for nothing to eat in Mark 8:13-21. Here, Jesus rebuked them for not considering His earlier miracles of multiplying the loaves and fishes. Jesus upbraided them for their "hardened heart" in not ascribing strength unto God in the "now." This is the definition of a hard heart - - one which does not ascribe strength to God. This heart may have ascribed strength to God previously and may certainly do so again. Yet, its hardness exists because it is not ascribing strength to God "now." It has lost its momentum into the moment.

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This was my personal realization. Even though I had received The Power many times previously, I could see that in recent years my heart had dulled in certain areas. I had, without realizing it, stopped ascribing “active and present” strength to God. The result was fewer mighty works in my life. I had developed a trench mentality where I endured the buffetings of life, but I really didn’t hope or expect present victory over them in The Power of God. I hate this trench mentality. I want you to hate it too. It is your enemy. It is what hardens your heart. It is what limits The Power from getting to you.

The good news is that this problem has a cure. Learn and train yourself to “ascribe strength unto God.” The moment you ascribe strength to God, you

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then will receive an infusion of strength. Light comes, hope flourishes, new vision arrives and the world looks different. There is an atmosphere of victory, expectation and confidence.

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

Is. 53:1.

Isaiah's question is our question. To whom is revealed the arm of the Lord? The Lord's arm is The Power. The arm of the Lord is always flexed and ready. But who is it that receives the revelation of it? Beloved, it is whoever ascribes strength to God by beholding and pinching the Lord's arm. Just like awed women feel the arms of muscular men, so must we

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appreciate and feel the Lord's awesome strength in each and every situation we encounter.

What is worship, if it's not ascribing strength to God over all our lives? **Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all. Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all.**

1 Chr. 29:11-12. What is prayer if it's not ascribing strength to God over all our challenges and needs?

And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in

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a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples. And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Lk. 11:1-4.

The Power is about receiving the revelation of the Lord's arm. It is about awakening to our inheritance of strength and "loaded" blessings with which the Lord has hedged us. **Awake, awake; put on thy**

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strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean. . . .The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. Is. 52:1,10.

Wake up beloved! Your strength awaits you. God has tailored His great strength to fit you to a tee. All you need do is to learn to ascribe strength unto Him in all your ways. This is not as hard as it seems. It is not unlike a magnet drawing other magnets to itself. Jesus is the magnet which draws all things unto Him that He may be "all in all" (1 Cor. 15:28), **That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of**

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things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Phil. 2:10-11.

The key to Jesus' magnetism is that He must first be lifted up, then He will draw all men to Himself (Jn. 12:32). When we lift Jesus up by ascribing strength unto Him, we are then drawn into Him and The Power is drawn into us. But, when our heart is turned away from the Lord, we become "as God" and repel God's Spirit away from us. Just as two identical magnetic poles "repel" each other from contact, so does our heart's prideful posture "as God" repel contact "with God." However, when our heart is turned the right way in humility and submission, then God's power

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magnetically draws us into Jesus. Our opposite pole of weakness and meekness is magnetized into God's positive pole of strength and power.

Beloved, we have in the past talked ourselves into believing that we are helpless. And we certainly are in our own strength. But, we have received The Power to become Sons of God (Jn. 1:12). And we must awaken and put on our strength. We are not "accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us" (Rom. 8:36-37). The Power not only conquers obstacles, it "super-conquers."

We each have an immediate sphere of influence at any and all times. These spheres of influence need to

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be “super-conquered” and reconciled fully back to God. We have the authority and freedom to always ascribe the strength over our sphere of influence to God. This releases The Power to reconcile reality back to Jesus. We lift up Jesus, He draws our sphere of influence into Himself and infuses it with The Power. The Power then “super-conquers” reality to transform it into the good, perfect and acceptable will of God.

As a body of believers, we each bring our respective spheres of influence together. As we corporately ascribe strength unto God, The Power is released on a wider and deeper scale. This is the manifestation of the Sons of God the whole earth is groaning to see (Rom. 8:19-23).

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A man who walks in his own strength is under the works of the law, and he will never conquer his sin. He will never find the rest or anointing of God. His strength will tire, fade and eventually quit. He will never find lasting joy. But, a man who walks in the strength of God is not under the law, but is in the Spirit. His strength will not fade. His eye of hope will not dim. The joy of the Lord is his strength (Neh. 8:10). He will abide in the rest and anointing of God. The Power of God is the rest of God. **There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest.** Heb. 4:9-11. The righteous man gets to rest from his own strength and rest on the strength of God.

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While it's true that The Power works in and through the hearts of believers, The Power does not come from the hearts of believers. The Power comes solely from the Godhead - - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. When we become Christians at the new birth, our spirits are joined with God's Spirit. **But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.** 1 Cor. 6:17. We are now indwelt by the Spirit of Christ (Rom. 8:9; Col. 1:27). His divine nature works in us to will and to do His good pleasure (Phil. 2:13; 2 Pet. 1:3-4). The Power works in us, but it is not from us. Never lose sight of this key distinction. It will keep us in humility, and only in this humility can we receive The Power. Only in recognizing our utter powerlessness in ourselves can we then "put on" the Lord Jesus who is the wisdom and The Power of God (Rom. 13:14; 1

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Cor. 1:24; 2 Cor. 12:10).

Let me close this chapter with some scriptural challenges, blessings and exhortations all based on The Power. First, the challenges:

A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength. Pr. 24:5.

If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small. Pr. 24:10.

Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength: Is. 26:4.

Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. 1 Cor. 16:13.

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Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Eph. 6:10.

Next, the blessings:

Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are the ways of them. Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools. They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God. Ps. 84:5-7.

The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him. The LORD is their strength, and he is the saving strength of his

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anointed. Ps. 28:7-8.

Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Is. 12:2.

The way of the LORD is strength to the upright. Pr. 10:29.

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Phil. 4:13.

Finally, the exhortations:

It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect. Ps. 18:32.

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**The LORD will give strength unto his people;
the LORD will bless his people with peace. Ps.
29:11.**

**In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust; let me
never be ashamed: deliver me in thy
righteousness. Bow down thine ear to me;
deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock,
for an house of defence to save me. For thou
art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy
name's sake lead me, and guide me. Pull me
out of the net that they have laid privily for me:
for thou art my strength. Ps. 31:1-4.**

**The LORD is my strength and song, and is
become my salvation. Ps. 118:14.**

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God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah. There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early. The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah. Come, behold the works of the

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LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth. He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and putteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire. Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah. Ps. 46:1-11.

SUMMARY

1. The secret of The Power lies in "ascribing strength unto God."
2. When we ascribe strength to God in each and every situation of our lives, we then

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immediately receive back the strength of God which always and only comes directly from God. This is like a point-blank ricochet where our ascribing goodness to God deflects it right back at us at the speed of light.

3. Hard-heartedness neglects the ascribing of strength unto God. This results in a "trench mentality" where we lose the spiritual momentum which makes us super-conquerors against the evils of the world.
4. Ascribing strength to God is like magnetism. When we yield our immediate sphere of influence to God by ascribing all strength to God over it, then Jesus is lifted up and will

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magnetically draw us into Himself. The result is that we will then be infused with His limitless strength and love.

5. The arm of the Lord is revealed to those who feel his biceps with awe and wonder. The Lord's arms are mighty to save. We get to rest from our own strength and rest upon the strength of God.

6. Key verses:

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah. Ps. 68:19.

Thy God hath commanded thy strength:

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strengthen, O God, that which thou hast wrought for us. Ps. 68:28.

Ascribe ye strength unto God: his excellency is over Israel, and his strength is in the clouds. Ps. 68:34.

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? Is. 53:1.

Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean. . . .The

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LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. Is. 52:1,10.

Chapter Three

PROBLEMS GETTING AND MAINTAINING THE POWER

We must understand the things which repel The Power away from us. As we understand these “repellants,” we can allow God’s truth to clean out our stalls. “Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox.” Pr. 14:4. In other words, to receive The Power of God means our internal “messes” will have to be expelled as waste. The presence of true strength always results in

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much needed waste removal.

Repellant Number One: SELF-Deception

The New Age Movement, also now called the New Thought Movement, makes billions of dollars today selling this deception to eager victims. Best-sellers such as *The Secret* by Rhonda Byrne and *A Course in Miracles* by Helen Schucman, and the books of Wayne Dyer, Neale Donald Walsch and Marianne Williamson are all built on the same deception - - SELF-deception. This deception ascribes strength to SELF rather than to God.

New Age\New Thought is all built on the same lie - - you are the key to your own power. The power lies within you. You have the power to create your own

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reality. Listen to the Secret Summaries listed on page 184 of *The Secret*, published by Atria Books (2006):

- “You get to fill the blackboard of your life with whatever you want.
- The only thing you need to do is feel good now.
- The more you use the power within you, the more power you will draw through you.
- The time to embrace your magnificence is now. . .
- Now that you have learned the knowledge of The Secret, what you do with it is up to you. Whatever you choose is right. The power is all yours.”

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The well-known *A Course in Miracles* echoes this lesson in Lesson 70 when it instructs the reader to declare daily, "My salvation comes from me. It cannot come from anyone else. . . .My salvation comes from me and only from me." *A Course in Miracles* also teaches that "the journey to the cross should be the last useless journey" (p. 52) and that "the recognition of God is the recognition of yourself" (p. 147). Marianne Williamson, Wayne Dyer and Neale Donald Walsch are all well-known and outspoken proponents of the principles taught in *A Course in Miracles* and/or *The Secret*. They all give lip-service in saying wonderful things about their "God," yet they all are in complete agreement that we are God already. Dr. Joe Vitale, one of the contributing authors of *The Secret*, was recently asked on *Larry King Live* about where

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God fits into *The Secret*. His response was, "God is all of us." This New Age view holds that I am God, you are God, we are God. All is God and God is all. Our only problem is that we don't realize it. Bottom line: you already have The Power now. You just need to learn to use it to create the world you want. WRONG!

With regard to Jesus, New Age\New Thought teaches that while you should walk as Jesus walked, you don't need to walk in Jesus. Neale Donald Walsch in his well-known *Answers and Questions on Conversations with God* states on page 291: "Yet it is not true that going through Jesus is required in order to be going with Jesus. Jesus never uttered such words, nor did he come close. That was not his message." (Hampton Roads, 1999). NOT HIS

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MESSAGE?? **Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.** Jn. 14:6.

The lie of these false teachers is not that God doesn't exist, but rather that you are already God - - that Godhood is found only in the SELF and the power of SELF. Marianne Williamson, made hugely famous by Oprah Winfrey's ringing endorsement, in her best-selling *A Return to Love: Reflections on the Principles of A Course in Miracles* states that "at our core, we are not just identical, but actually the same being [as Christ]" (pg. 30-31). The serpent lured Adam and Eve with this same deception, that they could and should be "as God." This is summarized by New Age Guru Wayne Dyer in his *10 Secrets for Success and Inner*

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Peace, when he encourages the reader as his ninth secret to "Treasure Your Divinity," and again in *Manifest Your Destiny: The Nine Spiritual Principles for Getting Everything You Want* when he informs the reader that "You have the power within you to attract to yourself all that you could ever want." [xi].

See the hook? Instead of God magnetizing us into His desires, Dyer believes we are the magnets who draw all our desires to ourselves - - again, as God. All of these SELF teachings are Satanic lures meant to divert you from The Power of God to the power of SELF.

Christianity teaches that man in himself has no power except one - - to reject God - - to misuse our

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freedom to say a prideful “no” to the loving “yes” of God. As William Law said, “Our own will separates us from God. Rather, our own will is separation from God.” Whereas New Age\New Thought teaches you how to live “as God,” true Christianity teaches us to live “in God.” New Age\New Thought teaches you to obtain what you desire by using your thoughts to create your reality. Christianity teaches you to obtain your very thoughts and desires from God as you yield to Him in absolute trust and surrender. **Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.** Ps. 37:4. New Age\New Thought teaches you the way of a man is in himself. Christianity teaches the opposite: **I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.** Jer. 10:23. The

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Sons of God are not those whose own spirit leads them as taught by New Age\New Thought. Rather, the Sons of God are those who are led by the Spirit of God (Rom. 8:14).

The word "Anti" in the term "Anti-Christ" doesn't just mean "opposite of." "Anti" also means "instead of" or "right up against." Scriptures warn us that many false Christs and Anti-Christes are in the world now disguising themselves as angels of light (1 Jn. 4:1-3; 2 Cor. 11:14; Matt. 24:24). These deceivers don't openly "oppose" Christ. Rather, they seek to replace Him by wedging themselves "right up against" His teachings and then inserting themselves "instead of Christ." This is the New Age deception.

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Wayne Dyer, perhaps the most popular New Age Guru today and well known for his endless PBS appearances, teaches again and again that each of us needs to affirm "I am here to be like God." (*Inspiration*, pg. 54). Sounds good, at first. But, this is exactly what Satan teaches "right up against" Jesus in order to seek to take His place. Consider Satan's well-known mission statement, "I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the Most High" (Is. 14:14). Compare this with Satan's lure to Adam and Eve to be "as" God by merely relying on their own SELF-will to choose good and evil (Gen. 3:5). While Christianity teaches that believers are to grow into "oneness" with God, Scriptures never teach we are the "same" as God. "Oneness" does not equal "sameness." Believers form the Bride of Christ, but

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they are not the same as Christ, just as a wife is one with her husband but is not the same as her husband. We are both "with" and "in" Christ, but we are not Christ.

Contrast these New Age "As God" beliefs with the true Jesus Christ. At His moment of greatest temptation in the Garden of Gethsemane, He rejects SELF-will in favor of God's will. **And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.** Mk. 14:36. With Jesus, it is never "as God," but always "within God" - - with God the Father and in God the Father. Even though He was one with the Father and was God in the flesh, Jesus never "regarded equality with God a

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thing to be grasped" (Phil. 2:5-11, NASB). Nor should we. Yet this is the sum of all New Age teaching - - to grasp equality with God at any and all times. In other words, to continually live "as God." For Jesus it was so different. Although He was as equally God as was the Holy Spirit or the Father, Jesus never "grasped" this equality with His own self-will. He never demanded it. He never claimed He deserved it, though He most certainly did. Jesus merely received with meekness His divine "being" from His continual connection with the Father. He came as a servant who laid His life down for us. He was never "like" or "as" God. He was God, both because it was in fact His identity, but also because He walked in complete submission, obedience and loyalty to the Godhead. One of the amazing qualities

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of the Trinity is that they are forever deferring to and honoring one another. Jesus always and only glorifies the Father (Jn. 8:28-29; 12:49-50). The Father always and only speaks of His pleasure in the Son (Matt. 3:17; 12:18; 17:5; Jn. 8:54). The Holy Spirit always glorifies the Son in taking from Him to give all things to us (Jn. 16:13-14).

The point is that even within the Godhead, none of the Trinity considers equality with God a thing to be grasped. To seek to grasp it is to SELF-promote and SELF-assert. This is not the way of God. **But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:** Matt. 20:26-27. God is love

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and love “vaunteth not itself” (1 Cor. 13:4).

Jesus never self-promoted or spoke from His own will (Jn. 7:16-18; 14:10). He always and only spoke and did what the Father first led Him to do (Jn. 5:19,30). And it’s the same for us. **For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.** Rom. 8:14. To be led by the Spirit means that we don’t have a will to be like God, but that our heart is to abide within God. SELF is crucified, not deified. Contrast this with these New Age SELF-promoters. Their pictures are on the covers of their books in blissful poses of “staged” peace and enlightenment. They draw men and money to themselves by teaching SELF-reliance through the grasping of equality with God. Again, consider these

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following verses which define the mind of Christ, which is the "same" mind we are to have:

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore also God highly exalted him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of

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Jesus EVERY KNEE SHOULD BOW, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Phil. 2:5-11, NASB.

The New Agers do not have the mind of Christ, but the mind of Anti-Christ. In the first place, they do not believe that Jesus was the very "God of creation" coming to Earth in the flesh. They all believe that as a man He found the universal Christ which is one with all creation and that only then Jesus became "as God." They also believe that all of us are just as much God as Jesus was. We just need to realize that we are already Christ like Jesus did, like Buddha did, like

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Krishna did, like Mohammed did. Marianne Williamson and Wayne Dyer both base their view of Christ on the aforementioned *A Course in Miracles*, which states at pages 87-88 that "The name of Jesus is the name of one who was a man but saw the face of Christ in all his brothers and remembered God. . . .Jesus became what all of you must be. . . .Is he the Christ? O Yes, along with you. . . .Is he God's only Helper? No indeed. For Christ [not Jesus] takes many forms with different names until their oneness can be recognized. . . .There is no need for help to enter Heaven for you have never left."

It should be remembered that *A Course In Miracles* claims to be a direct message channeled verbatim from Jesus' lips. The author Helen

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Schucman, who was an agnostic, claims that she started hearing voices and initially thought she was mentally ill. Later, she became convinced that this voice was the actual voice of Jesus. Her biographer and close collaborator Kenneth Wapnick states that, “*A Course in Miracles* . . . directly refutes the very basis of the Christian faith, leaving nothing on which Christians can base their beliefs. . . .In summary, therefore, we can conclude that there is no way one can reconcile the God or theology of the Bible with the theology found in *A Course in Miracles*. Moreover, the figure of Jesus in the Bible is totally incompatible with the Jesus who authored *A Course in Miracles*.” (Kenneth Wapnick and W. Norris Clarke, *A Course in Miracles and Christianity: A Dialogue*, Roscoe, N.Y.: Foundation for A Course in Miracles, 1995).

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The *Course* also claims, and this is the key blasphemy, that Jesus instructs us as follows, "Equals should not be in awe of one another because awe implies inequality. It is therefore an inappropriate reaction to me. . . .My mind will always be like yours, because we were created as equals." (Vol. 1, p.5,70-71). IN OTHER WORDS, EQUALITY WITH GOD IS THE THING TO BE GRASPED, IF YOU CHOOSE TO FOLLOW THIS ANTI-CHRIST TEACHING. WE ARE NOT TO BE IN AWE OF JESUS?? SATAN COULDN'T HAVE SAID IT BETTER. THIS IS A PERFECTLY EVIL ANTI-CHRIST ATTEMPT TO SUBSTITUTE THIS LIE OF GRASPING EQUALITY WITH GOD FOR THE FOLLOWING TRUTH: "THAT AT THE NAME OF JESUS EVERY KNEE SHOULD BOW . . . AND THAT EVERY TONGUE CONFESS THAT JESUS CHRIST IS LORD, TO

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THE GLORY OF THE FATHER.” (PHIL. 2:10-11). WE SHOULD LIVE, BREATHE AND GROW IN THE AWE OF JESUS.

A Course in Miracles is the nerve center of nearly all New Age teachers. It is Gnosticism repackaged. Gnosticism is the serpent in the Garden of Eden repackaged. *The Secret* is just a repackaging of *A Course in Miracles*. Let the truth of Jesus knock over *A Course in Miracles* and all other demonic dominoes of New Age teachings will follow suit and fall over. They cannot stand against the truth of God.

Beloved, have nothing to do with these New Age teachers. They are full of demonic deception and power (the wrong kind). For instance, although many

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of his students don't initially realize it, Dyer repeatedly promotes the channeling of spirit-guides from other dimensions to help lead and instruct us. He claims to have had numerous meetings with a collective entity of multiple spirit-guides from other dimensions with the corporate name of "Abraham" (not the Biblical Abraham to be sure). See *Ask and It Is Given* by Esther and Jerry Hicks (*The Teachings of Abraham*) forward by Wayne Dyer (2004 Hay House), in which Esther Hicks serves as the "channeler" or "medium" for these "spirit-beings" or "non-physical" entities collectively called "Abraham." Abraham graciously dictates inter-dimensional secrets to Esther which allow us to get whatever we want based on latent abilities which already reside in us. Other New Age Gurus such as Neale Donald Walsch, Jack

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Canfield and John Gray, also wrote quotes of praise for the book jacket endorsements of *Ask and It Is Given*. It is no coincidence that all three of these men were contributing authors to *The Secret*. In fact, Esther Hicks herself recently appeared on Oprah Winfrey's show as a contributing expert on the making of *The Secret* DVD. Small world.

The New Age Network is far more expansive than one can imagine. Wayne Dyer also wrote a recommendation for Gary Renard's *The Disappearance of the Universe* in which Dyer opined, "A book that is destined to be one of the most significant contributions to spiritual literature in this century. . ." Gary Renard, who is a well-known *Course in Miracles* conference speaker, writes in *The*

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Disappearance of the Universe about his multiple meetings with two “ascended masters,” spirit-guides named “Arten” and “Pursah,” who in previous incarnations were two of Jesus’ disciples, and who now want to show us how true the Gnostic Gospels are, the same Gnosticism that the Bible says is of the Anti-Christ.

As if this weren’t enough, Dyer also believes himself to be the reincarnation of St. Francis of Assisi (see pg. 19, *Inspiration*) as well as approving his own guru Siva Baba (also known as Shri Guruji) to portray him as the reincarnation of Jonathan Edwards. Baba taught Dyer the “Ah” meditation which allegedly brings the sexual energies up from the sex organs to the third eye invisibly located between our two physical eyes.

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Using our sexual energies this way, we can now give birth not just to babies, but also give birth to whatever we truly desire. Dyer shared this technique in Chapter 7 of his book *Manifest Your Destiny*.

Last, and most tragically, Dyer is the frequent keynote speaker at Hays House conferences where shamans, occultists, psychics, intuitives, astrologers, channelers and mediums all follow him to the podium. This is witchcraft, sorcery and evil. Have nothing to do with this. I know Christians who have allowed New Age teachings to infect them. They have slowly but surely lost their Jesus-focus. They have lost their discernment of spirits. God stops being a person and becomes an impersonal force. Jesus stops being The Power. SELF is gradually enthroned. The New Age

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definitely has some "literal" points which carry truth. The problem is that this truth is laced with Satanic poison. A literal truth coming from a wrong spirit poisons us. The Scriptures warn us not to have anything to do with this type of teaching. There are plenty of Christian writers who have spoken these same literal truths from a Christian perspective and in the right Spirit. Seek these Christian teachers out, but reject all Anti-Christ teachers, no matter how good their literal truth sounds.

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth

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that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. 1 Jn. 4:1-3.

For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath

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not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds. 2 Jn. 7-11.

Unfortunately, New Agers are not the only ones who err in SELF-deception. Christians also can be lured into operating out of SELF rather than God. Legalism, formalism and literalism are all forms of SELF-deception where religion, even Christianity, becomes man-powered rather than God-powered. These believers lean on their own natural strength

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and understanding when reading scriptures, developing doctrine and leading worship services. The result is spiritual powerlessness - - low levels of joy, peace and supernatural activity. The other extreme is hyped-up Christianity which confuses the energy of man with the energy of God. This form of SELF-deception believes God will be pleased if we only shout loud enough, praise long enough, and congregate large enough. The result is a performance Christianity based on SELF-righteousness and SELF-deception, not The Power of God's righteousness.

The key to avoiding SELF-deception is to avoid relying on your own desires, opinions and thoughts, no matter how God-like they may seem. Rather, reckon yourself dead to your own will (Lk. 22:42;

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Rom. 6:11). Ascribe strength to God alone in all your ways, then you will receive and manifest His strength, His desires, His emotions, His will and His love.

**Trust in the LORD with all thine heart;
and lean not unto thine own
understanding. In all thy ways
acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy
paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes:
fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It
shall be health to thy navel, and marrow
to thy bones. Honour the LORD with thy
substance, and with the firstfruits of all
thine increase: So shall thy barns be
filled with plenty, and thy presses shall
burst out with new wine. Pr. 3:5-10.**

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I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. Gal. 2:20.

Don't "repel," quench or grieve God's Spirit by relying on your SELF. You will never receive The Power from yourself. While the current generation of New Age\New Thought believers preach a gospel of SELF-reliance, Jesus preaches a Gospel of God-reliance. New Age Guru Wayne Dyer, in his book *Inspiration* (Hays Publishing 2006) at pages 19-20, claims to have hypnotized himself in order to regress to a pre-birth conversation he had with God.

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According to Dyer, God asked him what he wanted to accomplish here on Earth to which Dyer responded he wanted to “teach . . . self-reliance.” According to Dyer, God’s exact verbatim response was “Well, then, I think we’d better put your little ass into a series of foster homes and have to stay there for a decade or so, where you’ll learn to experience relying upon yourself.” Notice how in all this Dyer is the one who determines his desire, not God. Dyer gets the glory, not God. With Dyer and the New Agers, it’s all about SELF and nothing about serving or loving God. Dyer tells you to go to SELF. The Power tells you to go to God. The Power draws you to God. The Power is God. The Power is not SELF-generated, SELF-contained, SELF-righteous or SELF-discovered. Beloved, don’t make this fatal error of SELF-deception.

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Repellant Number Two: Ascribing Strength Wrongly

Realize that you are always ascribing strength to something or someone. We routinely ascribe strength to circumstances which control, frustrate or intimidate us. We ascribe strength to sickness when it defeats or immobilizes us into surrender. We ascribe strength to what people think of us when it wrongly pressures us into what to do, think or say. We ascribe strength to whatever controls us. In fact, whatever controls us is what we've already ascribed strength to.

Actually, ascribing strength is synonymous with worship. We worship and serve that which we ascribe strength to. When we ascribe strength to appearances, circumstances and our own natural understanding of events, we are actually committing idolatry. The Greek

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word for idolatry is “eidololatrea” and literally means “worshiping or serving that which is seen or appears.” In other words, when we ascribe strength to appearances we are committing idolatry. The Scriptures warn that idolatry is the mother of all sins, which is why it is mentioned in the first two of the Ten Commandments. Jesus and Paul warn against the idolatry of serving appearances in the following passages:

Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment. Jn. 7:24.

For we walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Cor. 5:7.

Some people have ascribed all strength to the appearances surrounding their children, spouses or

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parents. They, in effect, idolize these relationships. The result is that people's whole worth and well-being are wrapped up in and dependent on an earthly relationship. This is not healthy or wise. This is what Jesus was referring to in Matthew 10:34-39:

Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter

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more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. Matt. 10:34-39.

These relationships are only dangerous when they come before our love of God. My children, spouse or parents become my "foes" when I love them more than God. When their approval means more to me than God's approval, I know that I have wrongly ascribed strength to that person rather than to God. It's time to repent. Also, if I choose to hate a family member (or anybody else) with more intensity than my love for God, I have also idolized that relationship by wrongly

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ascribing strength to it. Whatever or whomever we ascribe strength to ends up being our "God."

The difference between ascribing strength to God versus something\someone else is that God always immediately shares His strength with us. All other things\people we ascribe strength to don't share strength with us - - they take, take and take more and more of our strength until we are helpless slaves. Lust defeats those who first ascribe strength to it. Lust takes more and more of its victim's strength until there is nothing left in the victim to resist the lust at all. This not only works with lust, but with all the other works of the flesh. Worry ascribes strength to fear. Greed ascribes strength to money. Anger ascribes strength to violence. Jealousy ascribes

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strength to hatred. Gluttony ascribes strength to food. And so on. Life without God is like daily vampire bites which slowly but surely suck the life out of us until we become vampires ourselves who now start sucking the strength from others.

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? . . .I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness

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unto holiness. Rom. 6:16, 19.

Esau wrongly ascribed strength to a cup of stew and it cost him his inheritance. Samson wrongly ascribed strength to Delilah's lap and it cost him his supernatural strength. King David once wrongly ascribed strength to the number of his soldiers rather than to the Spirit of God and caused the death of seventy thousand Israelites. Their mistake is our mistake - - giving strength to the wrong spirit - - the spirit of the world\man instead of the Spirit of God.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. 1 Cor. 2:12.

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Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever. 1

Jn. 2:15-17.

Be aware and vigilant not to ascribe strength to anybody or anything except God. We are always ascribing strength to something, so make sure to ascribe wisely and righteously at all times.

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Repellant Number Three: Failing to Tithe

The concept of the tithe is the giving of our first and best to God. The Old Testament saints interpreted this to mean giving God the first and best (the first 10%) of their income or material increase. The New Testament tithe goes far deeper. The tithe at its deepest level is not about money, it's about focus. Heart focus. Let's call this the "heart-tithe." The true heart-tithe is giving (ascribing) our first and best hope to God.

The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. . . .But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall

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be added unto you. Matt. 6:22, 33.

**And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as
to the Lord, and not unto men.** Col. 3:23.

Tithing is ascribing strength to God in the now - - our current and immediate sphere of influence. When we put God first, this enables His strength to manifest in and through us. Tithing is merely putting first things first. Putting God first is yielding to His will, dominion, power and blessings over our current sphere of influence. "Heart-tithing" is a continual activity of ascribing strength to God in each and every situation we encounter.

And my tongue shall speak of thy

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righteousness and of thy praise all the day long. Ps. 35:28. Each new day brings hundreds of opportunities to heart-tithe. Ancient rabbis would confess three hundred blessings a day to God - - some when they awoke, some when they left home, some on the way, some on the return home, some at meals, some at bathroom time, and some when lying down. This was their attempt to give God their first and best all the day long. Under the New Covenant, the Holy Spirit now actually helps us from within to "heart-tithe." How much more effective should our tithes serve to open the windows of heavenly power over our lives! Failure to tithe is failure to thrive. True tithing is true thriving.

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed

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me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall

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be a delightful land, saith the LORD of hosts. Mal. 3:8-12.

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine. Pr. 3:5-10.

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Tithing then is ascribing strength to God. The immediate benefit will be receiving strength from God. This is The Power. We give God our first and best. God gives us His strength and rest.

Repellant Number Four: Presumption

We must avoid the danger of presuming how the Lord's strength will specifically flow through us. Sometimes, The Power will manifest an instant miracle, healing or result. At other times, The Power may provide supernatural patience and endurance to wait out a situation until God's good can overcome evil. Regardless of what channel The Power specifically flows through, we will always begin feeling hope, peace and love simultaneously to our ascribing strength to God. This state of encouragement will

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equip and enable us to wage any fight of faith - - no matter how long or how short. We can't burden ourselves with all the billions of variables present in every situation which either obstruct or enable God's goodness. We must always place our confidence in The Power to always hasten to the highest available good in every situation. Knowing this, the only remaining issue is to let patience have its perfect work.

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. Jas. 1:2-4.

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Avoid these repellants, ascribe strength to God always and you will walk in continual blessing. When in doubt, ascribe strength to God. When not in doubt, ascribe strength to God. The Power will come. Weakness will go. You will be made whole. All will be well. One of the Hebrew names for God is El Shaddai which means, "Almighty God." May you grow in the knowledge of The Power which pulsates in El Shaddai through His Son Jesus Christ.

SUMMARY

1. Never ascribe strength to SELF. This is SELF-deception. Beware SELF-help Gurus. Walk in God, never as God. SELF-reliance is a "repellant" that drives The Power of God away. It is the Anti-Christ spirit that lures us into

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SELF-reliance, SELF-promotion and SELF-will.

Have nothing to do with Anti-Christ teachings or teachers.

2. Never ascribe strength wrongly. Be aware that we are always ascribing strength to someone or something. Don't ascribe strength to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes or the pride of life. Ascribe strength only and always to God alone. Mis-ascribing strength repels The Power.
3. Never fail to tithe. Ascribe your first and best hope to the Lord. This is the heart-tithe which releases the windows of Heaven over your life. Failure to tithe is failure to thrive and it repels The Power.

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4. Avoid presumption. Don't presume to know exactly how the Lord's strength will work in the situation. Only know that it will work. Let patience have its perfect work in the situation until you are perfect and entire, lacking nothing. Presumption is a repellant to The Power.

5. Key verses:

O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. Jer. 10:23.

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I

The Power

live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. Gal. 2:20.

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine. Pr. 3:5-10.

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For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be *strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man*; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or

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think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. Eph. 3:14-21.

Chapter Four

KEYS OF THE POWER REVEALED

Let's examine some spiritual Keys from those who have walked strongly in The Power. Having established what ascribing strength to the Lord is, let's see it in action in the lives of others. Let us follow these saints as they followed Christ.

Mary's Key: Mega Willing

When Mary was visited by the angel Gabriel and given the jaw-dropping news that she was to be

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impregnated by the Holy Spirit and give birth to the Son of God, her first and best response was this:

And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

Lk. 1:38.

What a perfect response! No wonder God was able to work so mightily and miraculously in Mary's life. Before Mary could evaluate the ramifications of the situation. Before Mary worried what others would think, say or do when they found out about her husbandless pregnancy. Before fear, doubt or despair found a way to get her to question or reject God's plan. Before she ascribed strength to any other

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person or thing, she first ascribed immediate and direct strength to God. She did this by simply acknowledging that she was the Lord's handmaid and that she joyfully embraced His will for her life. She said "Yes!" to God without doubt, deliberation or hesitation.

Even after she had time to meditate on the gravity of all that this visitation meant, she still maintained her strength in God:

And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call

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me blessed. For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name. And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation. He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away. He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy; As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever. Lk. 1:46-55.

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“Magnify” in the first line of the above passage is translated from the Greek word “megaluno” and means, “to make or declare great; to enlarge, extol and magnify.” This word is where we get the prefix “mega,” which we use today to describe an “enlargement” or “powerful increase.” For instance, a megaphone is an instrument which increases or amplifies sound. A megalith is a huge stone. “Mega” is also used to describe a multiplier of a million. A megacycle means a million cycles in Physics. What a wonderful word to describe Mary ascribing strength to God - - mega praising His name.

It’s not just that Mary’s soul enlarged and enabled God’s power and goodness over her situation. It was that Mary did it first before any other reaction. This is

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the heart-tithe described in the last chapter. When 2 Peter 1:5 tells us to give all “diligence” to our faith, the Greek word translated as “diligence” is from a root meaning “speed.” Diligent faith believes quickly and receives quickly. When we focus our first and best hope in each situation to God, then we have magnified and enabled His power to manifest itself into our life. Mary’s first and best, her heart-tithe, was the door which allowed The Power to enter her room, then her womb.

The Danish Christian Soren Kierkegaard wrote that “Purity of heart is to will one thing.” This was Mary’s purity - - to will this one thing, “Be it unto me according to thy word. . . .My soul doth magnify the Lord.” This is the Key of Mary - - to have the soul-

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posture of “megaluno,” which is always ready to receive the Lord’s revelation and magnify His strength to accomplish His will. As with Mary, so with us. The result of “megaluno” will be an immaculate conception of Jesus’ Power into the “now” situation. We can and should give birth continually to Christ in each and every opportunity life presents us. This is done solely and entirely through The Power of the Holy Spirit working in and through the hearts of men. “Lord, be it unto us according to Your word and our souls do magnify you.”

The Centurion’s Key: Mega Confidence

While recently watching the movie *Jesus of Nazareth*, I was deeply moved in seeing the story of the Roman Centurion acted out by flesh and blood.

The Power

Try to let your heart visualize the scene as a deeply troubled but humble Roman Centurion approaches Jesus with an emergency situation.

And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him, And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and

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he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was

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healed in the selfsame hour. Matt. 8:5-13.

This was a powerful man who came to Jesus, at least powerful by the world's standards. Yet, the Centurion knew he himself was helpless to cure his beloved servant with his own strength. From this passage we know that the Centurion did something so incredible that Jesus noted his faith was greater than any in Israel. What did this Centurion do which so distinguished him in Jesus' eyes? What was the Centurion's Key?

The Key is simple and amazing - - the Centurion ascribed strength to God both with his words and his actions. The Roman just didn't ascribe the strength to Jesus to heal his servant in person. The Roman

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backed up his belief by ascribing even greater strength to Jesus to heal his servant from a great distance by just declaring it so. What a confident action to take - - telling the Lord there was no need for a personal appearance to bolster the Centurion's faith. THE CENTURION ALREADY KNEW WHO JESUS WAS AND WHAT HE COULD DO - - ANYTHING AT ANYTIME FROM ANYWHERE! Consider this beloved. In a day when so many need "a man of God" to "come and lay hands on" or physically "anoint" a person in need of God's power, where is the faith that believes The Power without having to first see or witness it up close? Blessed are they who believe without seeing (Jn. 20:29). The Centurion knew something the Israelites had forgotten - - "there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few" (1

The Power

Sam. 14:6).

Think about this. The Lord's Power isn't restricted by time, distance or difficulty. To those who believe in ascribing strength to the Lord, "all things are possible" (Mk. 9:23). The Centurion's Key then is that he put no temporal or spatial limit on The Power. He in fact boldly "upped the ante" by declaring that there was no need for Jesus to personally come and appear. Like Mary, the Centurion knew that God just had to speak the word only and The Power would be released "now" over any distance, across any time and through any resistance.

The Loaves' Key: Mega Memory

In Chapter Two, we briefly discussed the events in

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Mark 8:13-21. Here, the Disciples were fearful for their lack of food in only having one loaf of bread to share together. Jesus rebuked them for their hardness of heart in not ascribing strength to God by remembering the miracles of the loaves. It wasn't just remembering that Jesus multiplied loaves. It was remembering how Jesus multiplied loaves. Consider this passage carefully.

And he left them, and entering into the ship again departed to the other side. Now the disciples had forgotten to take bread, neither had they in the ship with them more than one loaf. . . .And when Jesus knew it, he saith unto them, Why reason ye, because ye have no bread? perceive ye

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not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened? Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember? When I brake the five loaves among five thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up? They say unto him, Twelve. And when the seven among four thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up? And they said, Seven. And he said unto them, How is it that ye do not understand? Mk. 8:13-14, 17-21.

Here is the Key of the Loaves revealed:

1. Jesus used five loaves to feed five thousand and had twelve baskets of fragments left over.

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2. Jesus used the greater number of seven loaves to feed the lesser number of four thousand and had the lesser number of seven baskets of fragments left over.

3. JESUS' POWER WORKS MORE WITH LESS.

4. Jesus couldn't understand why the Disciples wouldn't remember this dynamic of ascribing strength to God in any and all situations of need.

5. If the Disciples only had one piece of bread, Jesus could feed the whole world - - the Disciples lost scope of the fact God's Power is limitless.

The Power

6. The hard hearts of the Disciples kept them from ascribing strength to God.

7. This is why Jesus told the Disciples to take no money nor extra clothes with them when they ministered. He wanted them not to ascribe strength to their material possessions, so that the glory of God could be demonstrated on a greater scale. Less is more.

This then is the Key of the Loaves: to continually meditate on and remember the wondrous works of God done in the past. This keeps our hearts soft to recognize His Power to work now. It is so easy to forget to ascribe strength to God. But it's also easy not to forget. King David commanded his soul to

The Power

remember the benefits of God's strength, and so can we.

Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. Ps. 103:1-5.

Meditating on His works, especially the wondrous

The Power

works of the Cross and Jesus' resurrection, keeps the strength of God ever near the surface of our thoughts. The clearer and nearer His strength stays in our focus, the more easily we automatically call on it.

Abraham's Key: Mega Tithing

Abraham is "the father of us all" - - the father of faith (Rom. 4:16). Abraham did something radically different than the other saints previous to him had done in their spiritual walks. Abraham was the first to ascribe strength to the resurrection power of God to quicken a "dead" situation.

What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? For if Abraham were justified by

The Power

works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. . . . (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations; according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the

The Power

deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. Rom. 4:1-3, 17-21.

Abraham was the first to heart-tithe to God. He gave his first and best hope to God regarding Sarah's ability to become pregnant. Abraham considered not his own age limitations. Abraham considered not the "deadness" of Sarah's womb. Abraham staggered not at the promise of The Power. Instead, Abraham recognized the strength of God who quickens the dead and calls those things which be not as though they were. Abraham was strong in faith by giving

The Power

glory to God. In other words, Abraham was fully persuaded that ascribing all strength to God would allow The Power to perform the promise. Abraham's Key is considering not any circumstance, appearance or hindrance to The Power, but instead giving (ascribing) glory to God's resurrection Power to perform all of the exceeding great and precious promises which provide us all things for life and godliness (2 Pet. 1:3-4). Abraham's focused confidence in God's resurrection power is again confirmed in his willingness to sacrifice Isaac's life on Mount Moriah. His willingness for Isaac to die was not based on Isaac being permanently lost to Abraham. Rather, Abraham's willingness was based on his confidence that God would immediately resurrect Isaac back to life!

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By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

Heb. 11:17-19.

From Abraham we also learn this about the tithe -
- the lessor always tithes to the greater (Heb. 7:1-7).
Abraham was the first to tithe to the priesthood of Christ, which the mysterious Melchisedek represented as the "King of righteousness," and the "King of peace," who "Without father, without mother, without

The Power

descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually" (Heb. 7:3). This is obviously describing the eternal priesthood of Jesus. Abraham had a pre-incarnate encounter with Jesus, who he referred to as Melchisedek. Whether this was a physical encounter or some sort of vision, we can't be sure. But we can be sure of this - - Melchisedek is Jesus, a fact which Hebrews 7 makes clear. The point here is that Abraham recognized that the Son of God is the "greater" to whom we are to give all our heart-tithes. This is the ascribing of strength to God through His Son Jesus Christ. Abraham was the first to see the Day of the Lord - - the Day of Jesus' Kingdom and Power. As Jesus himself declared, **Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he**

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saw it, and was glad. Jn. 8:56. Abraham's Key includes the title of our first and best hope in The Power of Christ as well as "considering not" anything that rises up against the knowledge of God (2 Cor. 10:5).

The Stronger Man's Key: Mega Stronger

Jesus declared His superior strength over Satan in the following passage: **But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you. When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace: But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils.** Lk. 11:20-22. Here, Satan is

The Power

referred to as the "strong man." Many still refer to him this way today - - as the strong man, yet this is not the point of the passage. The "strong man" is not the focus, but the "stronger man" who strips the strong man of his armor and divides the spoils. Jesus is the "stronger," always the stronger - - stronger than Satan, stronger than our sin, stronger than our hearts, stronger than our circumstances, stronger than all the cares of the world. And here we come to the end of the matter - - Jesus is The Power. Put Him on. Keep Him on.

But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof. Rom. 13:14.

The Power

But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: 1 Cor. 1:30.

These are the Keys of the Kingdom which will bind Satan's power and loose the blessings and strength of God in the Earth (Matt. 16:19). Use them in good health. May your weakness in your own flesh be exceeded only by your strength in God. Beloved, ascribe to God The Power over all your ways and you will walk as a true Mega Christian. Amen!

SUMMARY

1. Mary's Key: Mega Willing. The Key of Mary is to always magnify the Lord's strength to

The Power

perform and accomplish that which He has promised us. This is “megaluno,” the magnifying of the Lord, from which we derive such terms as “mega” or “megaphone.” Mary enlarged and enabled the Lord’s Power by “mega”-believing it. Her soul was a “megaphone” which amplified The Power over her situation.

2. The Centurion’s Key: Mega Confidence. The Key of the Centurion is to always ascribe strength to the Lord with our words and actions. The Centurion just didn’t believe the Lord would come and heal his servant; he believed the Lord would heal his servant by just declaring it “wherever” and “whenever.”

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This is truly ascribing strength to God which knows no limitations of time, distance or difficulty.

3. The Loaves' Key: Mega Memory. The Key of the Loaves is that God's Power does more with less. The weaker we realize we are, the more He is enabled to reveal His Power to meet all our needs according to His riches and glory in Christ Jesus. We must keep this in constant remembrance - - in mega remembrance - - when we are meek and weak in our own strength, then God is at His strongest.

4. Abraham's Key: Mega Tithing. Abraham's Key is to heart-tithe to Jesus all The Power to

The Power

perform all the promises of God which provide us all things for life and godliness. Abraham's tithe included "considering not" all things which rise up against the knowledge of God in our lives. Abraham's first and best hope was in The Resurrection Power of God to quicken both the deadness of his own body and Sarah's womb and Isaac's corpse. He gave (ascribed) glory to God to perform that which He promised. This was the basis of Abraham's strong faith which makes him the father of us all.

5. The Stronger Man's Key: Mega Stronger. Remember that Jesus is stronger than any other form of strength - - be it demonic strength, human strength or nature's strength.

The Power

When the world seems too strong for you, remember to focus on Jesus and add “er” - - Jesus is strong“er” than whoever, whatever and whenever.

6. Key verses:

And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her. . . . And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. Lk. 1:38, 46-47.

The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only,

The Power

and my servant shall be healed. . .When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. Matt. 8:8,10.

And when Jesus knew it, he saith unto them, Why reason ye, because ye have no bread? perceive ye not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened? Mk. 8:17.

For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. . .Who against hope believed in hope, that he might

The Power

become the father of many nations; according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Rom. 4:3,18-21.

But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is

The Power

come upon you. When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace: But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils. Lk. 11:20-22.

TIPS TO REMEMBER

1. THE POWER IS NOW.

THE POWER IS NEAR.

AWAKE AND PUT ON THE POWER.

2. Meditate continually on the seven following Hebrew attributes of God: Chesed (lovingkindness), Gevurah (strength), Tiferet (beauty), Netzach (victory), Hod (glory), Yesod (intimacy) and Malchut (majesty). This will help you ascribe strength unto God.

3. "High and lifted up! High and lifted up! Jesus is

The Power

high and lifted up!" Declare this in times of need. Visualize Jesus on the cross being lifted above every earthly challenge. As you ascribe all strength unto God, Jesus' Power will levitate and activate over your life. You then are drawn up and into His strength. "High and lifted up! High and lifted up! Jesus is high and lifted up!"

4. Confessing Scriptures is a great way to ascribe strength to God. Confess any or all of the following verses on a frequent basis and they will help you focus your heart-tithe to God. Use them in good health.

**a. Your Name O Lord Is A Strong
Tower; The Righteous Run Into It**

The Power

And Are Safe Because You Are El Shaddai, My Almighty God; My Strong Breasted One. Prov. 18:10;
Gen. 17:1.

- i. Jehovah Elohim, my eternal creator. Gen. 2:4-25.
- ii. Adonai Jehovah, the Lord my sovereign king. Gen. 15:2,8.
- iii. Jehovah Chezeq, the Lord my strength. Ps. 18:1.
- iv. Jehovah Jireh, the Lord my provider. Gen. 22:8-14.
- v. Jehovah Nissi, the Lord my victory. Ex. 17:15.
- vi. Jehovah Rapha, the Lord my healer. Ex. 15:26.

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- vii. Jehovah Shalom, the Lord my peace. Jdg. 6:24.
- viii. Jehovah Tsidkeenu, the Lord my righteousness. Jer. 23:6; 33:16.
- ix. Jehovah Mekaddishkem, the Lord my sanctifier. Lev. 20:7.
- x. Jehovah Saboath, the Lord of armies. 1 Sam. 1:3; 281 times.
- xi. Jehovah Shammah, the Lord is present. Ez. 48:35.
- xii. Jehovah Elyon, the Lord most high. Ps. 7:17; 47:2.
- xiii. Jehovah Rohi, the Lord my shepherd. Ps. 23:1.
- xiv. Jehovah Hoseenu, the Lord my maker. Ps. 95:6.

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- xv. Jehovah Eloheenu, the Lord our God. Ps. 99:5,8,9.
- xvi. Jehovah Eloheka, the Lord your God. Ex. 20:2,5,7.
- xvii. Jehovah Elohay, the Lord my God. Zech. 14:5.
- xviii. Jesus is Emmanuel (Matt. 1:23); God (Jn. 1:1); Lord of All (Acts 10:36); Lord of Glory (1 Cor. 2:8); Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Is. 9:6-7); the Lord's Christ (Lu. 2:26); Son of God (Rom. 1:4); Alpha and Omega, Beginning and the End, First and Last (Rev. 22:13); Son

The Power

of the Highest (Lu. 1:32); Bread of God (Jn. 6:33); Holy One of God (Mk. 1:24); Your Holy Child Jesus (Acts 4:30); King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Rev. 19:16); Lord and Savior (2 Pet. 3:2); Word of God (Rev. 19:13); Creator (Col. 1:16); Mediator (1 Tim. 2:4,5); Head of the Church (Col. 1:16-24); Judge (2 Tim. 4:1); Preserver (Heb. 1:1-3); Life Giver (Jn. 10:28); Lord and Christ (Acts 2:36); Resurrection and Life (Jn. 11:25); Apostle and High Priest of My Confession (Heb. 3:1); My Advocate with the

The Power

Father (1 Jn. 2:1).

- xix. Jesus became the Son of Man that I might become a son of God (Jn. 1:12; 1 Jn. 3:1; Jn. 3:13-17); Jesus became my sin that I might become His righteousness (Is. 53:10; 2 Cor. 5:21); Jesus became a curse that I might become a blessing (Gal. 3:13-14); Jesus became poor that I might become rich (2 Cor. 8:9); Jesus took my sickness that I might take His divine health (Is. 53:4-5); Jesus tasted my death that I could taste His life (Heb. 2:9); Jesus consumed my old

The Power

corrupt nature that I could partake fully of His new divine nature (Col. 3:9-10; 2 Pet. 1:4).

- xx. I am saved all the day long because I continually call on the name of Jesus. Rom. 10:13.

**b. I Will Bless The Lord At All Times:
His Praise Shall Continually Be In
My Mouth. Ps. 34:1.**

- i. I dwell in the secret place of the most High and shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I say of the Lord He is my fortress and my deliverer, my God, in Him do I trust. Ps. 91:1-2.

The Power

- ii. God is my refuge and strength, a very present help (an abundantly available help) in time of need.

Ps. 46:1.

- iii. Blessed are You, Lord God of Israel our father for ever and ever. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come of You, and You reign over all; and in Your hand is power

The Power

and might; and in Your hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. Now therefore, my God, I thank You, and praise Your glorious name. 1 Chr. 29:10-13.

- iv. My tongue O Lord shall speak of Your righteousness and praise all the day long. Ps. 35:28.
- v. With my lips have I declared all the judgments of Your mouth. Ps. 119:13.
- vi. Show me Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth, and teach me for You are the God of my salvation; on

The Power

You do I wait all the day. Ps.
25:4-5.

- vii. One thing have I desired of You Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in Your house all the days of my life, to behold Your beauty, and to enquire in Your temple. For in the time of trouble You shall hide me in Your pavilion: in the secret of Your tabernacle shall You hide me; You shall set me up upon a rock. And now shall my head be lifted up above my enemies round about me; therefore will I offer in Your tabernacle sacrifices of joy;

The Power

I will sing, yes, I will sing praises
unto You Lord. Ps. 27:4-6.

viii. I love the Lord my God with all
my heart, and with all my soul,
and with all my strength and I
love my neighbor as myself.
Deut. 6:5; Matt. 22:37-39.

ix. I will love You, O Lord, my
strength. The Lord is my rock,
and my fortress, and my
deliverer; my God, my strength,
in whom I will trust; my buckler,
and the horn of my salvation, and
my high tower. I will call upon
the Lord, who is worthy to be
praised: so shall I be saved from

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my enemies. Ps. 18:1-3.

- x. I have set the Lord always before me: because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices: my flesh also shall rest in hope. You will show me the path of life: in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand there are pleasures for evermore. Ps. 16:8,9,11.
- xi. Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:

The Power

You forgive all my iniquities; You heal all my diseases; You redeem my life from destruction; You crown me with lovingkindness and tender mercies; You satisfy my mouth with good things; so that my youth is renewed like the eagle's. Ps. 103:1-5.

- xii. I trust in the Lord with all my heart and lean not on my own understanding. In all my ways I acknowledge the Lord and He directs and empowers my paths. Pr. 3:5-6.

c. I Remove Sorrow From My Heart

The Power

And Put Away Evil From My Flesh.

Eccl. 11:10.

- i. The joy of the Lord is my strength. Neh. 8:10.
- ii. I have joy by the answer of my mouth. Prov. 15:23.
- iii. Believing, I rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory. 1 Pet. 1:8.
- iv. I rejoice in God's testimonies as much as in all riches. Ps. 119:14.
- v. In my patience (joyful endurance) I possess my soul. Lu. 21:19.
- vi. My hope in God's word is the anchor of my soul. Heb. 6:19;

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Rom. 4:18-19.

- vii. I count it all joy when my faith is tried knowing that it works patience (joyful endurance) and I let patience (joyful endurance) have its perfect work so that I may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. Jas. 1:2-4.
- viii. Through my faith and patience (joyful endurance) I inherit all the exceeding great and precious promises of God which provide me all things for life and godliness. Heb. 6:12; 10:36; 2 Pet. 1:3-4.
- ix. I am happy because my quiver is

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full of children. Ps. 127:5.

- x. I have fullness of joy because Christ's presence is in me. Ps. 16:11; Col. 1:27.
- xi. I am happy because I trust in You Lord. Prov. 16:20.
- xii. My merry heart gives me a cheerful countenance and continual feast, even in the presence of my enemies. Prov. 15:13,15; Ps. 23:5.
- xiii. I am happy because I find wisdom and get understanding. Prov. 3:13.
- xiv. I am happy that it is the heavenly Father's good pleasure to give

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me His Kingdom. Lu. 12:32.

- xv. I am happy because it is the goodness of God that convinces me of my sin and leads me to repentance; to carefulness in me, clearing of me, indignation, fear, vehement desire, zeal and revenge. Rom. 2:4; Jn. 16:7-11; 2 Cor. 7:10-11.
- xvi. I have learned to be content in whatever state I am, both as I am abased and as I abound. Phil. 4:11-12.
- xvii. The peace of God rules my heart and crushes Satan under my feet. Col. 3:15; Rom. 16:20.

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xviii. I rejoice evermore, pray without ceasing and in everything I give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for me. 1 Thes. 5:16-18.