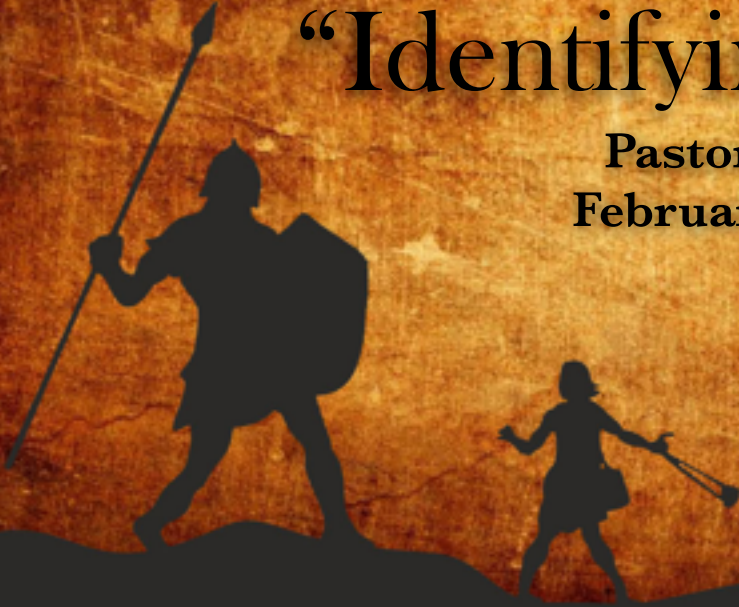


“Identifying The Giants”

Pastor Grant Williams
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Matthew 28:16-20 KJV

16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them.

17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted.

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Satan knows it's our job and he knows the command as disciples or followers/imitators of Christ that we are to go make disciples.

Satan knows and so should we that as the disciple, follower or imitator of Christ, we show and prove our love by keeping the commands.

John 14:15-17 KJV

15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

Jesus ministered while here on earth to people and said there would be the “promised holy spirit” that would now come when HE went away.

John 16:13 AMPC

13 But when He, the Spirit of Truth (the Truth-giving Spirit) comes, He will guide you into all the Truth (the whole, full Truth). For He will not speak His own message [on His own authority]; but He will tell whatever He hears [from the Father; He will give the message that has been given to Him], and He will announce and declare to you the things that are to come [that will happen in the future].

Jesus said, He promised that the Holy Spirit would guide them into truth, give them power, give them boldness to witness and make disciples. That boldness is by you and I, doing our part, the commands of Christ which can only be known and done by knowing and reading the Word.

Acts 1:8 AMPC

8 But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends (the very bounds) of the earth.

The holy spirit quickens us, empowers us, if we let Him, to not just recite the Word, but to live it. The fruit of the spirit, stop repeating the sin from the old nature, acting, speaking and living like a new creation made in the image of Jesus Christ.

Romans 8:1-20 AMPC

1 Therefore, [there is] now no condemnation (no adjudging guilty of wrong) for those who are in Christ Jesus, who live [and] walk not after the dictates of the flesh, but after the dictates of the Spirit.

2 For the law of the Spirit of life [which is] in Christ Jesus [the law of our new being] has freed me from the law of sin and of death.

3 For God has done what the Law could not do, [its power] being weakened by the flesh [the entire nature of man without the Holy Spirit]. Sending His own Son in the guise of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, [God] condemned sin in the flesh [subdued, overcame, deprived it of its power over all who accept that sacrifice],

4 So that the righteous and just requirement of the Law might be fully met in us who live and move not in the ways of the flesh but in the ways of the Spirit [our lives governed not by the standards and according to the dictates of the flesh, but controlled by the Holy Spirit].

5 For those who are according to the flesh and are controlled by its unholy desires set their minds on and pursue those things which gratify the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit and are controlled by the desires of the Spirit set their minds on and seek those things which gratify the [Holy] Spirit.

6 Now the mind of the flesh [which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit] is death [death that comprises all the miseries arising from sin, both here and hereafter]. But the mind of the [Holy] Spirit is life and [soul] peace [both now and forever].

7 [That is] because the mind of the flesh [with its carnal thoughts and purposes] is hostile to God, for it does not submit itself to God's Law; indeed it cannot.

8 So then those who are living the life of the flesh [catering to the appetites and impulses of their carnal nature] cannot please or satisfy God, or be acceptable to Him.

9 But you are not living the life of the flesh, you are living the life of the Spirit, if the [Holy] Spirit of God [really] dwells within you [directs and controls you]. But if anyone does not possess the [Holy] Spirit of Christ, he is none of His [he does not belong to Christ, is not truly a child of God].

10 But if Christ lives in you, [then although] your [natural] body is dead by reason of sin and guilt, the spirit is alive because of [the] righteousness [that He imputes to you].

11 And if the Spirit of Him Who raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in you, [then] He Who raised up Christ Jesus from the dead **will also restore to life your mortal (short-lived, perishable) bodies through His Spirit Who dwells in you.**

The phrase, 'restore to life' here in the Amplified Version is the word 'quicken' in the original King James manuscript.

Quicken Defined: 1828 Webster's Dictionary

1. to make alive; to vivify; to revive or resuscitate, as from death or an inanimate state.

Romans 8:11 KJV

11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

12 So then, brethren, we are debtors, but not to the flesh [we are not obligated to our carnal nature], to live [a life ruled by the standards set up by the dictates] of the flesh.

13 For if you live according to [the dictates of] the flesh, you will surely die. But if through the power of the [Holy] Spirit you are [habitually] putting to death (making extinct, deadening) the [evil] deeds prompted by the body, you shall [really and genuinely] live forever.

14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

15 For [the Spirit which] you have now received [is] not a spirit of slavery to put you once more in bondage to fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption [the Spirit producing sonship] in [the bliss of] which we cry, Abba (Father)! Father!

16 The Spirit Himself [thus] testifies together with our own spirit, [assuring us] that we are children of God.

17 And if we are [His] children, then we are [His] heirs also: heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ [sharing His inheritance with Him]; only we must share His suffering if we are to share His glory.

18 [But what of that?] For I consider that the sufferings of this present time (this present life) are not worth being compared with the glory that is about to be revealed to us and in us and for us and conferred on us!

19 For [even the whole] creation (all nature) waits expectantly and longs earnestly for God's sons to be made known [waits for the revealing, the disclosing of their sonship].

20 For the creation (nature) was subjected to frailty (to futility, condemned to frustration), not because of some intentional fault on its part, but by the will of Him Who so subjected it—[yet] with the hope

Satan knows you have this power available to you and the command that you have so he will come up against the disciple of Christ and try to stop the gospel seed/message from being shared not just by mouth but by actions as well. Our actions can also be described as how we live at work, home, with friends or when no one is around.

1 John 3:18 AMPC

18 Little children, let us not love [merely] in theory or in speech but in deed and in truth (in practice and in sincerity).

James 1:22 AMPC

22 But be doers of the Word [obey the message], and not merely listeners to it, betraying yourselves [into deception by reasoning contrary to the Truth].

Colossians 3:17 AMPC

17 And whatever you do [no matter what it is] in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus and in [dependence upon] His Person, giving praise to God the Father through Him.

Colossians 3:23 AMPC

23 Whatever may be your task, work at it heartily (from the soul), as [something done] for the Lord and not for men,

God has requirements to be in His Kingdom. We don't dictate what the requirements are. We don't get to vote, we can't gather to ourselves teachers who say we can change Gods Word or spin a little bit of truth and then still change Gods Word.

While we are doing God's Work, where ever He has called us to do our sojourning, our temporary assignment, there will be Jezebels. We've been studying Jezebel and the characteristics of Jezebel in the Old and New Testament and we know it shuts people down who are living a life pleasing to God. The imitators of Christ who are working in the Kingdom Of God and specifically it will target men in order to keep them quiet and focused on their work, hobbies - anything but Kingdom work.

We need to pray for the men - the enemy wants them crushed, to remain in sin, to go back to their sinful habits, to be caught in the traps that satan has laid out. This isn't an excuse for men, I'm one, it's a realization of what the enemy is trying to do - get the man and destroy the marriage, the business, the church... we need to pray in victory and not in defeat.

For all of us, we will have great victorious times in our lives both spiritually and naturally. Life is good when: children, job, relationships, money meet our expectations. God provides all our needs and in abundance in certain areas at different times.

Then, the enemy comes in when you get focused on something other than God's will and plan for your life - good or bad. You become tempted in an area and you give in because of _____. We all have weaknesses and we need to identify them.

Fear is often the “fill in the blank” space root. Fear is the opposite of faith. Fear is energy draining; Faith is energy producing. *We all need to feed our faith by reading God's Word.*

Fear tolerated is Faith contaminated

So, let's pick up our story about Elijah, King Ahab and Jezebel where we left off last week.

Remember, this was a victorious time in Elijah's walk with God. Wherever his foot touched (where God told him to go) not where he wanted to go but where God wanted him to go was His (God's) and his (Elijah) for the glory and Kingdom of God.

Elijah had told King Ahab (picture of the church) that their sin would bring a draught. King Ahab had looked the other way and had allowed the people to worship God in ways that God said was evil, false, and punishable.

King Ahab said to Elijah (mouthpiece of God), you've been saying this a long time and nothing has happened yet. The kingdom has money/provision, so I will continue as I have been. Jezebel was leading these groupings of people and multiplying that same spirit of deception and false worship, secular worship by getting more teachers to follow her.

A drought came, Elijah took off and was fed by ravens, a Jewish woman who gave him the first of her provision (tithe) and he healed her son. God was providing even in the wilderness.

Elijah commanded by God, came back to speak to King Ahab and have a show down of the false god and the ONE TRUE GOD. The altar that Elijah prepared was consumed with fire from heaven and all the false prophets, 850 were killed. The people realized they were following false teachers, a false way of worship and killed off the old nature and old ways of living.

We ended last week with the celebration of the drought ending. Elijah full of power, a spiritually and naturally victorious time...

1 Kings 19:1-3 KJV

1 And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword.

2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."

3 And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

Elijah - Key Points of 1 Kings 19:1-3

- o Look at Elijah, to this point he was "the man"
- o But all of a sudden this totally changes because of one word of adversity
- o You would think after all the Lord had just used him to do, Elijah would not have flinched
- o But this was an especially evil attack - spirit of Jezebel
- o Jezebel represents a wicked spirit, a spirit of control, manipulation, intimidation and rebellion
- o Jezebel represents bondage and destruction

1 Kings 19:4 KJV

4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, "It is enough! Now, LORD, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!"

Elijah - Key Points of 1 Kings 19:4

- o Easy for us to say, "what a wimp, what a winer!"
- o Have any of us called fire down from Heaven, or outran horses for 16 miles?
- o No matter how long you have walked with God, you are still subject to attack
- o Even Elijah had a breaking point in the natural
- o Perhaps Elijah expected God to fully purge idolatry from the land
- o He thought that Jezebel would flee after she heard what happened to all the false prophets

1 Kings 19:5-6 KJV

5 Then as he lay and slept under a broom tree, suddenly an angel touched him, and said to him, "Arise and eat."

6 Then he looked, and there by his head was a cake baked on coals, and a jar of water. So he ate and drank, and lay down again.

Elijah - Key Points of 1 Kings 19:5-6

- o Thank God! He meets us at our point of weakness
- o Without condemnation, without frustration, without anger, without disgust – just pure compassion
- o God ministers encouragement to His people and not just a rebuke

1 Kings 19:7-8 KJV

7 And the angel of the LORD came back the second time, and touched him, and said, "Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you."

8 So he arose, and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God.

Elijah - Key Points of 1 Kings 19:7

- o Again, He fasts and travels 40 days and nights
- o The Spirit of Lord was on Him even if he didn't "feel" like it

1 Kings 19:9-10 KJV

9 And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and He said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

10 So he said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

Elijah - Key Points of 1 Kings 19:9-10

- o **This may sound like complaining but I am glad that My God wants to "reason together"**
- o **Elijah is in this cave (having a melt-down), He is in bondage and the Word of the Lord is about to SET HIM FREE**

1 Kings 19:11-12 KJV

11 Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the LORD." And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake;

12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

Elijah - Key Points of 1 Kings 19:11-12

- o So many times we miss the Word of the Lord because we look for the fantastic
- o But we have the Holy Spirit within us
- o Elijah got a glimpse of what we can enjoy every day

1 Kings 19:13 KJV

13 So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

Elijah - Key Points of 1 Kings 19:13

- o God asks him a 2nd time
- o The Lord is saying, "what are you doing here?"
- o In this place of bondage, fear, depression, loneliness, confusion?
- o This is not where you belong

1 Kings 19:14 KJV

14 And he said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

15 Then the LORD said to him: "Go, return on your way"

Elijah - Key Points of 1 Kings 19:14-15

- o God sent him back to minister in His power**
- o The Lord wanted him to minister out of His need**
- o He didn't say take a break Elijah, He said, "go and return on your way."**
- o He encourages him & gives new instructions**
- o He even tells him to take on a trainee – Elisha**

This trainee, Elisha is also called a disciple. This disciple, is also called an ally. This ally is also called a remnant. This is how God intended for us to multiply and to stay in line with His perfect plan and will and He still intends for His Kingdom to expand today the same way.