



Sitting On Top Of The World

by Lawrence Powell

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." John 16:33

Scripture tells us volumes about our position in the kingdom of God. We know that defeat is not an option for the believer; success is the inheritance of every child of God. We're marked with His favor, and we can expect miracles because even what works against us has to work for us! Romans 8:28 reminds us of this: all things, even negative situations, work together for good to them that are called according to His purpose.

So why is it that, knowing who we are in Christ, we still fall apart in the midst of trials when we should be of good cheer? Because we've heard the Word, but failed to do it. Today, I want to share a few points to encourage you to step out in faith and walk in the authority God has given you over all of your circumstances:

Don't Panic! This past January, US Air flight 1549 went down in the Hudson River after striking a flock of geese. When the audio tapes were released to the public, we heard the voice of a pilot in the midst of crisis operating with composure and confidence. His behavior saved all one hundred and fifty-five passengers on board!

All of us can learn from the pilot's demeanor and the way he reacted in a time of great stress. Isaiah 26:3 says, *"You will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on*

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You." Note that your mind must be focused and fixed on Jesus, the Author and Finisher of your faith. There's no time to be carnal or flippant when an issue arises. You must remain steadfast and continue to trust Jesus all the way.

Don't Make Costly Mistakes! Never make permanent decisions over temporary circumstances. Suicide is such an example. You can't take it back; it's a done deal. Some people, in the heat of the moment, will make permanent decisions - they'll end a relationship, go to divorce court, even quit a job over one negative situation.

The Israelites made several costly mistakes that the wise need to take heed of. They gave into temptation, complained, limited God and forgot the past works of the Lord. Too often we do the same, failing to recall the wonderful things God's done for us. My friend, we need to take control of our thoughts in trying times and choose to remember that God is a good God and He is faithful to a thousand generations. If you fear, if you're anxious, if you're worrying or doubting God, you will never enjoy the rest that is made available to those who make the decision to trust in the Lord.



Don't React To Crisis; Respond! There's opportunity in adversity. Sad and gloomy news constantly bombards us through the television and newspaper, but, friend, we've got to gain a kingdom perspective.

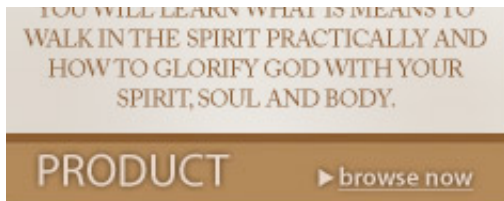


In the words of Miles Monroe, "Crisis is the incubator for personal and organizational development." It's when we find ourselves in tribulation that we begin to be stretched. A crisis will place a demand on your hidden potential. There's something inside of you that is God-given and will only come out when you find yourself in a trial. That's when you have to become innovative. You need to be prepared to pioneer a way through your testing. It may not be a way others have gone through, but with the mind of God you can go through life's challenges utilizing the unique tools you've been given. Crisis provides opportunity for creativity.

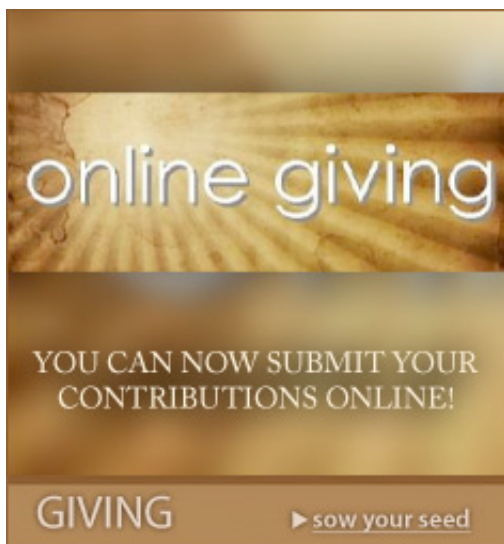
Plan for success! Doing nothing is not an option. You have to make good decisions. We don't need to worry about tomorrow, but we should have a plan *for* tomorrow. A plan doesn't mean you don't have faith. In fact, God Himself expects us to make a plan to succeed. That's why He's equipped you with tools that will promote success in every area of your life.



In addition to the points just mentioned, I want to share with you four kingdom keys for success in overcoming a crisis in your life. Those who know how to use them will



operate in this earthly realm from a kingdom perspective. You must understand that the kingdom of God is not under this world's jurisdiction, nor is it ever in crisis. If you seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, everything you need will be added unto you. You don't have to worry about a thing.



The four keys that will greatly enrich your life are:

1. The Management Key. "Management is the effective, efficient, correct and timely use of another person's resources for the purpose they [intended, with the expectation of] producing added value," said Miles Monroe. Whatever you fail to manage, beloved, you will lose. God is given to effective governance. When you can prove yourself faithful in a few things, God will give you more. With regards to management in seasons of crises, you need to maximize everything. Stop wasting the resources God gives you. Jesus fed five thousand, and what was left over He said to gather so that it could be used. God won't give you what you pray about, but what you can govern.



2. The Faith Key. As the Pioneer of Faith, R.W. Schambach, says, "You don't have any trouble. All you need is faith in God." Faith demands expression or manifestation. It's not mystical or magical. You can't just feel faith and expect God to move on your behalf. Faith is an action word. The Bible tells us in James 2:20 that without works, without taking action, it's dead or useless. If you have faith in God, you *will* walk with confidence in shaky situations, and your faith will produce and it *will* pay rewards.



3. The Obedience Key. Faith and obedience go hand in hand. You can't have faith without corresponding actions. We cannot just speak words of faith; we must do what we believe. I'm reminded of the miracle of the wedding feast in Cana. The mother of Jesus told those that were assisting Him to do whatever He told them to do. The same holds true for us. Whatever He tells you to do, that you must do. Their obedience allowed a miracle to take place, and as a by-product, glory was exhibited. Whenever you obey the Word of God, expect the manifestation of miracles and glory to come into your life.



4. The Praise Key. In times of crises, don't withhold your praise. Your praise positions you to receive favor, blessings and miracles from God. As our text said, in this world we're going to be pressed and squeezed. We're going to experience anguish. But in those times of squeezing, virtue will come. In times of crisis, who you really are is manifested. You are refined as you allow the Word to have its perfect work in you. Jesus has given us a right and a reason to rejoice. Too many are living on a



praise they gave God six months ago, but today's a new day and it deserves a new praise.

You may be going through a crisis today. I encourage you to go through it with a praise, a clap, a dance, a shout, a hallelujah. You're an overcomer! In Christ, we are the head and not the tail, first and not last. We're not under our circumstances; we're on top of them! Even in economic crises, God's going to feed, clothe and shelter you. Learn to be optimistic even when everyone else is pessimistic. You've got to say you're sitting on top of the world, not for yourself, but because of Christ. You're in Him and He's in you, and greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world. Receive this encouragement today and walk out our text in faith, applying the keys to the kingdom and experiencing the success you were born to have in Jesus' name!

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