

You Can Have God's Best!

by Sherry Jones

God created you so that you could walk with Him and enjoy His blessings. The way to experience and benefit from His blessings is simply to receive them. The word *receive* means “to take, grasp, seize, or embrace, as one would capture a prize.” If you give something to someone, they must first receive it and then it becomes theirs to use however they desire. Too many people in the body of Christ are waiting on God to bring about their answer or a solution to a problem they are facing. If you were to ask them what they are doing about the situation, they would reply, “I’m just waiting on God.” The truth is that God is waiting on them to receive what He has already done for them and provided in the great plan of redemption.

In other words, God has already accomplished His part. Now it is up to the believer to receive the benefits and blessings. There is an illustration in the Old Testament of what it means to receive from God. In 1 Sam. 14, we find the army of Israel very discouraged because of the continual raids and attacks on their villages and farms by the Philistines. The only people that had weapons at this time were King Saul and his son, Jonathan. The army of Israel that was present with the king had dwindled down to six hundred men while the rest of the army had either gone home or were hiding in the surrounding rocks and caves. Saul’s army had been reduced to a state of hopelessness and utter despair.

But Jonathan, the king’s son refused to sit idly by and let himself be intimidated by the enemy. So he formulated a plan of action, and he and his armor-bearer got up and began to approach the enemy’s camp. Jonathan said in 1 Sam. 14:6, “Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that the Lord will work for us: for there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few.” The New Living Bible says “He can win a battle whether he has many warriors or only a few.” The Message Bible says, “There’s no rule that says God can only deliver by using a big army.” Then verse eight says, “Behold, we will pass over unto these men, and we will discover ourselves unto them.” The Message Bible says, “We’ll cross over the pass and let the men see we’re there.”

Jonathan refused to give in to defeat; instead, he got up and went on the offensive toward the enemy. As soon as he did, things began to change, the Philistines began to flee and verse 23 says “So the Lord saved Israel that day.” Many times, believers are faced with difficult circumstances and just like the army of Israel, become so fearful or intimidated that they become discouraged or run away and hide. But Paul admonished us in Ephesians 6:10-11, “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” Instead of sitting around doing nothing about your circumstance, you must get up, take the offensive like Jonathan did, and do something about it. 1 Cor. 15:57 says, “But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” You must get up and receive what rightfully belongs to you through Christ. God has already done everything He is going to do. Now it is up to you shake off any attitude of defeat, inferiority, or fear and receive from God what He has already accomplished for you.