

A collection of symbolic items including a chessboard, medals, a compass, and glasses. The chessboard is in the top left, with several pieces visible. A red ribbon with a circular emblem is at the top. A blue ribbon with a circular emblem is in the middle left. Two medals, one with a star and one with a cross, are in the center. A pair of glasses is in the bottom center. A compass is in the bottom left.

Are You Successful?

*The purpose of this Bible
Study is to show that God
has provided all the blessings
we need to serve Him
successfully and receive
eternal life.*



What Power Does God Make Available?

- ◆ You can have the *power to know and believe the truth.*
- ◆ You can have the *power to become a child of God.*
- ◆ You can have the *power to resist every temptation.*
- ◆ You can have the *power to endure suffering and hardship.*
- ◆ You can have the *power to serve others.*
- ◆ You can have the *power to do everything needed to receive eternal life.*



The Power to Know and Believe the Truth

- ◆ Some people get confused by the different teachings they hear. They say, “I don’t think I can understand the Bible. One person teaches it one way and the next teaches it differently. I’ll never know what to believe.” *But God can meet this need.*
- ◆ *2nd Timothy 3:15-17*-And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.



- ◆ *1st Corinthians 2:4-5*-And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of mans wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power. That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.
- ◆ By *human power alone* truly we could never determine how to obtain eternal life. But God meets our needs by giving us the means to know and believe the truth if we study diligently with an honest, open heart.
- ◆ *Mark 7:14, Ephesians 3:3-5, John 8:31-32, and Isaiah 55:11*



The Power to Become A Child of God

- ◆ ***John 1:12*** says that Jesus gave the right (power) to become children of God, to those who believe in His name. Faith alone, without obedience, does not make one a child of God, but simply gives the power to become a child.
- ◆ ***1st Peter 1:22-23*** tells us that the power to make us children of God is in Gods spiritual seed, His word. To be purified and born again, we must obey the truth. This includes repenting, confessing, and being baptized (***Acts 2:38, Acts 22:16, and Acts 17:30***).



The Power to Resist Every Temptation

- ◆ People often excuse their sins by saying obedience is too hard. “I just can’t do it. God will just have to understand.” We may even blame God for being too demanding.
- ◆ *1st Corinthians 10:13* tells us that God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are *able*, but with the temptation will also make a way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.
- ◆ This is true of *every* temptation. We can be sure this is true because it is based on God’s faithfulness.



- ◆ *Ephesians 6:10-18* says that the Lord provides **strength and power** such that we are able to stand against the power of Satan. We can quench those fiery darts (temptations) that he throws up against us. Again, this is **not possible** by human power. Perhaps Satan can defeat us if we face him alone, but **we can succeed** by the power of God's armor.
- ◆ These verses teach us that **a Christian can overcome every temptation**. There is **never** any excuse for committing even one sin. In practice we all commit sin because we fail to use the weapons properly (*1st John 8:1-10*). But this is not necessary. If we believe our human nature compels us to sin and nothing can be done about it, we are looking at **human power** when we should be looking at **God's power**.



The Power to Endure Suffering and Hardship

- ◆ Often hardship, grief, sickness, and persecution tempt us to quit serving God. We think, “What’s the use”.
- ◆ *2nd Corinthians 3:1-10* tells us that Paul suffered beyond power such that he despaired of life. Someone may ask, “Doesn’t that prove that there are temptations beyond our power?” Yes, perhaps we face temptations beyond *our power*, but not beyond *Gods power*. Paul here says we should learn to trust God.
- ◆ Nowhere does it say that God will remove all of our problems. Rather, he promises us that *if we endure*, and *remain faithful*, our reward will be greater than we could ever imagine.



The Power to Serve Others

- ◆ Discouragement sometimes comes when we try to help others, but we see no positive results. We may decide to quit trying, thinking, “It just doesn’t do any good”.
- ◆ *2nd Timothy 2:2*-And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.
- ◆ So God’s telling us to take what we’ve learned from the Word, bring it to other faithful followers and let’s get His Word out.



The Power to do Everything Necessary to Receive Eternal Life

- ◆ *Ephesians 3:20*-Now unto him that is ***able to do exceedingly abundantly*** above all that we ask or think according to the ***power*** that worketh in us
- ◆ *Philippians 4:13*-I can do ***all*** things through Christ which strengthens me.
- ◆ *2nd Peter 1:3* tells us that His ***power*** grants us all things that pertain to life and goodness.



What Methods Does God Use to Provide This Power

- ◆ There is *Power* in the *Blood of Jesus*
- ◆ There is *Power* in *God's Love*
- ◆ There is *Power* in the *Scriptures*
- ◆ There is *Power* in *Prayer*
- ◆ There is *Power* in *Associating With other Christians*
- ◆ There is *Power* in *Hope of Eternal Life*



Power in the Blood of Jesus

- ◆ *1st Corinthians 1:18*-For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness, but unto us which are saved, it is the power of God. In other words, some sinners may think that this is all just a waste of time (foolishness), but for us that are saved and know the Word of God, we know there is *much power* in Gods Word.
- ◆ *“There is Power in the Blood”*, but the power is *conditional*. To receive it, you must *accept the Lord Jesus Christ into your life, repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus*.



Power in Gods Love

- ◆ *1st John 4:9*-In this was manifested the love of God towards us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.
- ◆ The ultimate sacrifice of love!



- ◆ *1st John 4:19*-We love him, because he first loved us. In other words, we have the *power to love* because he first had love for us.
- ◆ Love is a powerful motivation. Gods love is the *most powerful* love there is. It is a bond that draws us closer to God and makes us want to serve Him successfully.
- ◆ But, again, there are *conditions*. *Love must lead to obedience*.



Power in the Scriptures

- ◆ *Romans 1:16* tells us that the gospel is the *power* of God unto salvation.
- ◆ *1st Corinthians 1:18* says that the word of the cross is the *power* of God.
- ◆ *Ephesians 6:13-17* tells us that every part of the armor of God is related directly or indirectly to the word: loins girt about with truth, feet shod with the preparation of the gospel, the sword which is the word, etc.,.



- ◆ The Scriptures are involved in every area in which we need power: they are the basis of *knowledge* and *faith*, they tell us how to become children of God, they strengthen us to *overcome* temptation and comfort us in times of trouble. (*Romans 15:4*)
- ◆ However, the power of the word is *conditional*. We must take the time to *study* and *follow* the word in order to benefit from the *power* it provides.



Power in Prayer

- ◆ *Psalms 138:3*-In the day when I cried thou answered me, and strengthened me with strength in my soul.
- ◆ *James 5:16*-Confess your faults one to another, and pray for one another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. (*The prayer of a good man is full of power*)



- ◆ There is *no need to bear our burdens alone*. We can give them to God and ask our fellow brothers in Christ to pray with us.
- ◆ But again, there are *conditions*. *We must use the privilege of prayer*.
- ◆ To many of us are like a man with a powerful automobile, instead of getting in and starting it up, we would rather get behind the car and push it. *He tries to do it all himself and gets nowhere*.



Power in Associating With Other Christians

- ◆ *Ecclesiastes 4:9-10*-Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.
- ◆ *Galatians 6:2*- Bear ye one anothers burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.



- ◆ *Hebrews 10:25*-Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting (*keeping strong*) one another, and so much the more; for we know the day is near.
- ◆ We can only be strong when we *use* what *God provides* to make us strong.



Power in the Hope of Eternal Life

- ◆ *1st Corinthians 9:25*-And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate (has self-control) in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.
- ◆ Goals motivate us to work hard, as illustrated by some athletes. With an *unclear* vision of our goal, we may easily give up when tough times occur. With a *clear* and *valuable* goal, we are strongly motivated to finish the course.



- ◆ ***Matthew 6:24***-No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon (wealth).
- ◆ We must keep our eye on the goal and not become overly involved with the affairs of this life. ***We have to keep our priorities straight.***



Conclusion

- ◆ *Acts 10:34-35* tells us that God is not a respecter of persons. In every nation, those who fear him and work righteousness are accepted by him. Everyone can serve God successfully. This is not just for other people. It includes you and I.
- ◆ *Why then are so many people being defeated in Gods service?* Because they are not using the armor properly.



- ◆ Imagine an army of soldiers sworn to protect the country where you live.
- ◆ Suppose a powerful enemy is coming to attack your city, destroy your wives and children, causing great pain and grief. The enemy has a great powerful weapon which your army knows there's no way you can defeat them.
- ◆ Then your soldiers learn of someone who has a powerful new weapon. Everywhere it has been used, the enemy has been defeated.



- ◆ They give one of these weapons to every soldier in your army. They come with an instruction manual. Meetings are set up so the soldiers can learn how to use the weapon. Your army can successfully win the victory!!!! All the soldiers have to do is read the instruction manual, attend the meetings and use the weapons provided.
- ◆ Would you want those soldiers to stay home instead of coming to the meetings?



- ◆ You can successfully win the battle against Satan by what God has supplied to us.
- ◆ Are you studying and attending the meetings, so that you can be successful?
- ◆ Are you as diligent as you would want the soldiers to be if they were defending you and your family in wartime?

*Have you
even yet
enlisted in
Gods Army?*

