

## THE POWER OF THE SURRENDERED LIFE

### TEXT:

[Moses blessing his people speaking the Words of God]

**Deuteronomy 33:3-5:**

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***Yea, He loved the people; all His saints are in Thy Hand: and they sat down at Thy Feet; every one shall receive of Thy Words.***

<sup>4</sup>

***Moses commanded us a Law, even the inheritance of the congregation of Jacob.***

<sup>5</sup>

***And he was king in Jeshurun, when the heads of the people and the Tribes of Israel were gathered together.***

This was the parting message of the grand old Prophet who had refused an empire [Pharaoh's], and then founded a nation.

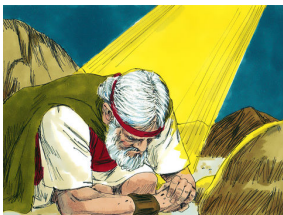
**Hebrews 11:24-25:**

***<sup>24</sup> By Faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;***

***<sup>25</sup> Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;***

God, by miracles and wonders, had made Moses great among the people.

After 40 years of loving service as leader and lawgiver of this nation, Moses had brought them to the threshold of their inheritance. Now at a ripe age of 120 years, with eye undimmed and vigor unabated, he is going to lay down his life at the feet of his Master, and commit his spirit to the hands of God who gave it.



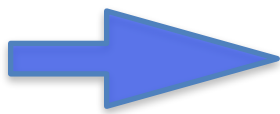
What a tenderness he must have had in his voice and in his heart as he knew he would see these people no more. As he stood there in the foothills of Mount Nebo, he looked upon three million people who had been his veritable children. When the last echo of his voice died away, he had to walk up that mount alone with his God. Now he had to go alone to the place where this God would put him to rest from

his labors.

So, he spoke to them with the tenderness of a dying man. Yet he was one of those who was never to die in the hearts of the people. Centuries passed, and in the time of Jesus, we read that the Centuries cried out:

**John 9:28c: *We are Moses' disciples.***

In Moses, we see the beauty of the life of the man who lived for God, possessed the love of God, and was wholly surrendered to God! But as it was then, so is the danger today: we are always in danger of unwisely turning to watch some person and to follow after *him* more than following the Son of God.



**There is a very significant truth hidden away here — one of God's treasures. Moses — who represented the Law — could not lead the Children of God into the Promised Land. The Law will lead us out of a life of sin and satan's bondage, but it cannot lead us into the glorious inheritance in Christ! There must be another way, and there was: through a new leader whose name was Joshua. The name Joshua means "Saviour", the same meaning as the Name of Jesus which is an alternate form of the name Joshua.<sup>1</sup>**

God is showing us here that no one can get to Heaven by following the law, for no one has ever been able to keep the law. That's why God instituted the Day of Atonement as a means to atone for the sins of the people, wherein a sacrificial offering was required to atone for people's sins year after year. Christ came to earth to become That Sacrifice to atone for man's sins once and for all. He, and He alone is the only way to redemption. The Law cannot save, for no man can keep it.

**Romans 3:23:**

***23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;***

***24 Being justified freely by His Grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:***

***25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His Blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;***

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<sup>1</sup>**Yeshua** (ישוע, with vowel pointing יֵשׁוּעַ – *yēšūā'* in Hebrew) was a common alternative form of the name יהושע ("Yehoshua" – Joshua) in later books of the Hebrew Bible and among Jews of the Second Temple period. (ref. Wikipedia.)

**2 Corinthians 5:21: For He [God] hath made Him [Jesus] to be sin for us, Who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.**

We thank God for the Law which is our schoolmaster Who brings us to Christ. But most of all, we thank God for that glorious new Leader who takes us all the way into the fullness of God, that is, the Messiah – Jesus Christ.

**Galatians 3:24-27:**

**24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.**

**25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.**

**26 For ye are all the Children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.**

**27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**

There is a strange sweetness about many of the passages in the Book of Deuteronomy which is the spiritual commentary on the law that almost anticipates the Spirit of the New Testament and the heart of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Moses seems to have deeply warmed the heart of his Master by his heart's hunger, and by the depths of his surrender to Him. At length, thru our Lord Jesus Christ, Moses appears on earth again in the place he so longed to be during the days of his flesh — with Jesus, on the Mount of Transfiguration.

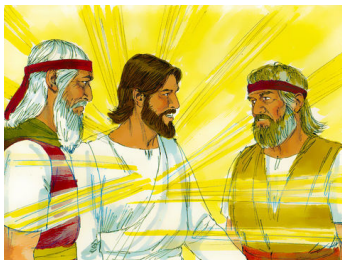
**Mark 9:2-4:**

**2 And after six days Jesus taketh with Him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth**

**them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and He was transfigured before them.**

**3 And His raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them.**

**4 And there appeared unto them Elijah with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus.**



## **IN HIS HEART**

**“Yea, He loved the people.”** God could have made us live in isolated solitude but, instead, He has given us hearts to love and affections to bind our hearts

together in harmony that is best known in Heaven — **“Yea, He loved the people.”**

Jesus taught us that God is Love. He showed us His love in giving us Christ as our Saviour, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, spiritual gifts, a home in Heaven and — through having blessed communion with Him in prayer — the opportunity to have a divine touch with Heaven every moment.

Jeremiah the Prophet, speaking the Words of the LORD to His people:

***Jeremiah 31:3b: Yea, I have loved thee with an Everlasting Love: . . .***

It would seem that the devil is striving to get God’s children to doubt God’s wonderful love. This is what satan himself did at the beginning with Eve, and later with Jesus in the wilderness:

***Genesis 3:1-5:***

***1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the Garden?***

***2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the Garden:***

***3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the Garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.***

***4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:***

***5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.***



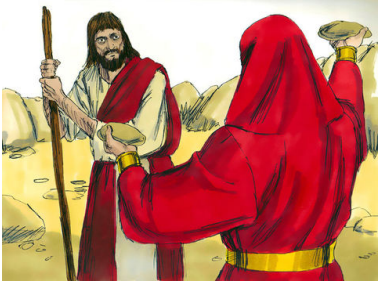
Satan clearly was tempting Eve to doubt the Goodness of God by contradicting the very Word of God, and by making it appear as though God were trying to withhold something that was good from her.

Satan also tried to twist, pervert, and nullify the Word of God with Jesus:

***Matthew 4:1-7:***

***1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.***

***2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He was afterward an hungred.***



**3 And when the tempter came to Him, he said, If Thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.**

**4 But He answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.**

**5 Then the devil taketh Him up into the Holy City, and setteth Him on a pinnacle of the**

**temple,**

**6 And saith unto him, If Thou be the Son of God, cast Thyself down: for it is written, He shall give His angels charge concerning Thee: and in their hands they shall bear Thee up, lest at any time Thou dash Thy foot against a stone.**



**7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.**

Satan has tried to undo all God has done for us.

**John 3:16: For God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have Everlasting Life.**

**John 13:1:b: [Jesus 'knowing His hour was come'] . . . having loved His Own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end.**

Satan would also love to get *us* to doubt the Word of God which clearly teaches that through the shed Blood of Jesus Christ, we can have eternal life and will not perish. Satan does everything within his power to try to negate this truth, resulting in many trying to get to Heaven by good works, and giving rise to the erroneous, damnable teaching that says there are many paths to God.

### **IN HIS HAND:**

**Deuteronomy 33:3: All His saints are in Thy Hand:**

What does this mean? It means that we can have the security of knowing that we are in the very Hand of God and can experience a closeness with Him. We also have the Words of Jesus — the promise He gave to His faithful:

**John 10:29: My Father, Who gave them [My sheep] Me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them [My sheep] out of My Father's Hand.**



Further, listen to the words of the Prophet Isaiah, speaking God's Blessing over Israel:

***Isaiah 41:10: Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right Hand of My Righteousness.***

Let us also consider the words of Paul who said he was — “apprehended of Christ” — in the following passage of **Philippians**:

***Philippians 3:9-14:***

***9 And be found in Him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:***

***10 That I may know Him, and the power of His Resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death;***

***11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.***

***12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.***

***13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,***

***14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.***

What does Paul mean by apprehend?

Paul is expressing his great desire to know Christ more intimately, not just as Savior, but to know His sufferings, His Resurrection, and to know Him more fully. He describes himself as pressing into Christ — pressing forward as would an athlete that is racing for a prize — in order have a perfect knowledge of Christ. Likewise, Christ is pressing upon Paul, drawing him closer to Himself that Paul might know Him more fully .

**Christ is pressing upon us to draw us**

Likewise, Christ is pressing upon us to draw us closer to Him. Like a boy with a kite, we can't see Him, but we can feel Him tugging. It means He is guiding us by His Hand:

***Hebrews 8:9-12:***

***9 Not according to the [first] Covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in My Covenant, and I regarded***

**them not, saith the Lord.**

**10 For this is the Covenant that I will make with the House of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put My Laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to Me a people:**

**11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know Me, from the least to the greatest.**

**12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.**

It also means He is there to stretch for His Hand to heal, as stated in the following verse:

**Acts 4:30: By stretching forth Thine Hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the Name of Thy Holy Child Jesus.**

God's Hand is often upon men:

**Acts 11:21: And the Hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.**

**Acts 13:11-12:**

**11 And now, behold, the Hand of the Lord is upon thee [Elymas he sorcerer], and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.**

**12 Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord.**



We often hear people say “*The Hand of the Lord was upon me*”, and “*I went in the Spirit of the Lord.*” This is a pentecostal experience — a supernatural Hand which is very much needed in our day.

**AT HIS FEET** – Moses continues to bless Israel

**“They sat down at His Feet.”**

**Deuteronomy 33:3: Ye, He loved the people; all His saints in Thy Hand: and they sat down at Thy Feet; every one shall receive of Thy Words.**

**Sitting down at His Feet** means surrender, submission, and communion, just as Mary sat at His Feet in humility. This is where the blessings of the Lord start.

**Luke 10:39-42:**

**3<sup>9</sup> And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' Feet, and heard His Word.**

**4<sup>0</sup> But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to Him, and said, Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.**

**4<sup>1</sup> And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:**

**4<sup>2</sup> But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.**



## **AT HIS COMMAND**

**“Every one shall receive of Thy Word.”**

Rotherham translates this verse as: *Everyone shall bear away Thy Word.*

Dr. Alexander gives it: *Everyone shall rise up at Thy Word.*

In each case, it refers to the ready response to the divine message, like a soldier taking orders by rising first at the trumpet call.

***Psalms 68:11: The Lord gave the Word: great was the company of those that published it.***

God will not speak to us unless we are prepared to listen and obey. Obedience is the watchword at the commencement of our journey to glory.

At the time of the Boer War, General Buller needed a detachment of forces to place on a salient point. It was so dangerous that he would not appoint men. He could not have a coward in the group, so he called for volunteers.

**God will not speak to us unless we are prepared to listen and obey.**

He asked that everyone who would be a volunteer for this place — which was the key to victory — should move up three paces. He turned away, not wishing to influence them by even the glance of the eye. He waited a few moments, then turned back to the men. They still remained in a straight line, seemingly unmoved.

With a flash of fire in his eye, he said, *“Is there not a volunteer for the Queen?”*

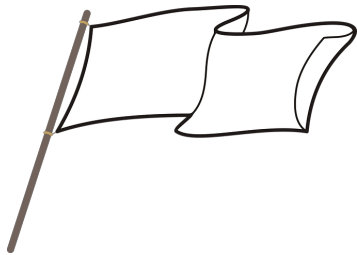


Then a young officer stepped out, saluted his commander, and said, "*Sir, they have all moved up.*"

Oh, Church of God, for a united front like that! It will bring Pentecostal power, and the Glory of God shall fall.

Dear Ones, if we are in surrender at His Feet, there will be no trouble about being at His command. We will no longer try to see how little we can do for Christ and the Church, or how little you can give and get by, but how much you can sacrifice.

The story is told that a French general was captured by Lord Nelson and brought aboard the flag ship. The French General walked up to the great Admiral and extended his hand. "*No*", said Lord Nelson, "*not your hand, but your sword first.*"



That is the Truth of the Gospel. Many would take Jesus by the Hand and say; "*He is a noble character, a wonderful Friend.*" But they are not willing to unconditionally surrender to Him their all.

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