



# “DON'T FALL ASLEEP”

## THE WHEAT & THE TARES PART 9

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### 2 Peter 1:1-4 AMPC

1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle (special messenger) of Jesus Christ, to those who have received (obtained an equal privilege of) like precious faith with ourselves in and through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

2 May grace (God's favor) and peace (which is perfect well-being, all necessary good, all spiritual prosperity, and freedom from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts) be multiplied to you in [the full, personal, precise, and correct] knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

3 For His divine power has bestowed upon us all things that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, through the [full, personal] knowledge of Him Who called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue).

4 By means of these He has bestowed on us His precious and exceedingly great promises, so that through them you may escape [by flight] from the moral decay (rottenness and corruption) that is in the world because of covetousness (lust and greed), and become sharers (partakers) of the divine nature.

Over the last 2 weeks have been breaking this passage down the Peter wrote to the church... answering the question: If this is not the tribulation (Roman Empire) what must we do to be ready for Jesus Return? And, what are the Signs of His Return?

In verse 3 is the word: divine or divinity. Basically, this has to do with God or pertaining to God. It has to do with the nature of God, the highest degree, the most excellent – divinity. Going through this passage, we know that our faith is built on the platform or righteousness. His Word is right or righteous, it is truth, it is light and our faith is built on His Word.

His Word tells us to watch our close associations or be on guard because bad company spoils good character, hangout out with stupid or unrighteous people and you will be ruined. Paul told us not to even eat with someone who calls themselves a brother or sister in Christ or a follower of Jesus Christ and continues to commit sin... it's all throughout the Old and New Testament.

We are told by Jesus Himself to continue to read the Word, believe the Word, act on the Word and listen to preaching and teaching about the Word or the TRUTH without things being added or deleted (twisted).

Why is faith so important? For one, without faith you can't please God, without faith you can't overcome the world. The Bible says in 1 John 5.

**1 John 5:4 KJV**

*4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.*

If you want to overcome the world (fear, anxiety, toil, doubt), then you are going to need faith. The Bible says that we, the just and the righteous, shall live how? BY FAITH.

**Hebrews 10:38 KJV**

*38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.*

**Romans 1:17 KJV**

*17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

**Romans 1:17 ESV**

*17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."*

**Romans 1:17 AMPC**

*17 For in the Gospel a righteousness which God ascribes is revealed, both springing from faith and leading to faith [disclosed through the way of faith that arouses to more faith]. As it is written, The man who through faith is just and upright shall live and shall live by faith.*

Faith isn't a parachute, faith is the way to fly. Faith is what we need to access the Promises of God.

Many follower's of Jesus Christ or God's people struggle with living by faith or don't know how to live by faith so, that's what we need to learn. People try to work on their faith in their own way but God's Word says don't lean on your own understanding...God's Word says that faith comes by what? Hearing... and hearing what? The Word of God.

**Romans 10:17 KJV**

*17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

**Proverbs 3:5 KJV**

*5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.*

**James 2:26 AMPC**

*26 ...so faith apart from [its] works of obedience is also dead.*

We have learned that faith is established by righteousness. So... is God's definition of righteousness is... He is the Word.

We know from His Word what righteousness is... It is a right standing with God. Righteousness is the life and the nature of God taking possession of us. Righteousness is the ability to stand in the presence of God without a sense of guilt, condemnation, shame, unworthiness, inferiority or anything like that - That is righteousness.

How do you get righteousness? When you get born again. When you're born again you are born the righteousness of God, you get a clean slate and when you get this righteousness and this new nature inside of you, you have to learn how to walk in this new nature – which is renewing our minds.

**Romans 12:2 AMPC**

*2 Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you].*

When you get born again you have the same nature as God has in Him. So you have to learn how to walk in that nature. Because the old mind is programmed to the old nature.

Jesus was the Word in heaven with the father, yet HE was born in the earth.

**Hebrews 10:5 KJV**

*5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:*

God prepared a body for HIS son. He came into this earth and was born into this earth and they called his name JESUS. The body came from Mary, a human, but He came from God. So the body was prepared for Him and He was put in that body. The body started to grow and He started learning things as a person.

My body maybe falling apart but my spirit man doesn't care about that. It is growing and growing - amen?

**Hebrews 5:8-9 AMPC**

*8 Although He was a Son, He learned [active, special] obedience through what He suffered*

*9 And, [His completed experience] making Him perfectly [equipped], He became the Author and Source of eternal salvation to all those who give heed and obey Him,*

He had to learn obedience, that's no different than you and I. I'm telling you this because Jesus did something here...most of us have been religiously trained into thinking Jesus did things that we can't do. But that's religion. Jesus was the son of God but He put His God head aside and got anointed by God to do the Father's Plan and Purpose.

The reason He had to get anointed is that He to come as a man. This is the first thing that you have to overcome. You have to rewrite the script in your mind, 'well I've been taught that only Jesus could miraculous things' no, Jesus said "the things that I do you can do to".

**John 14:12 AMPC**

*12 I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, if anyone steadfastly believes in Me, he will himself be able to do the things that I do; and he will do even greater things than these, because I go to the Father.*

This is what He's trying to tell us; once you get born again you have a new you in that body. Anyone who is in Christ Jesus becomes what? A NEW CREATURE. So there's a new you in there.

The mind doesn't know that's the "new you", because the mind still thinks with the old program that, that's the "old you". The mind is trying to hold the "new you" captive, so the "new you" can't express himself. The "new you" wants to go to church to hear a Word but "old you" wants to sit at home and crack open a cool one and wait for the game to start!

The “new you” has no limits - all things are possible while the “old you” has limits, it’s impossible. The “new you” is connected to the ability of God and God has no limits. The new you and God are one – you are one spirit with the Lord – that’s the “new you”. Lets read what Jesus said in John chapter 10.

**John 10:30-33 AMPC**

*30 I and the Father are One.*

*31 Again the Jews [a]brought up stones to stone Him.*

*32 Jesus said to them, My Father has enabled Me to do many good deeds. [I have shown many acts of mercy in your presence.] For which of these do you mean to stone Me?*

*33 The Jews replied, We are not going to stone You for a good act, but for blasphemy, because You, a mere [b]Man, make Yourself [out to be] God.*

They began to stone Him and He said why are you doing this? They said that’s blasphemy – you’re bringing God down to your own level. Whether it’s down to ours or up to His they said, that’s blasphemy.

Remember when Jesus finished ministering to the people and He sends HIS disciples in the boat to go the other side? As they were going out into the water, the Bible said, the wind was contrary. Meaning, the forces were against Him. But then He came to them walking on the water and they cried out for fear saying this is a spirit. That was a revelation because HE was walking in the spirit, HE wasn’t walking by the limitations of HIS flesh because being in the flesh He would sink.

Your mind has been programmed for the most part by what people say you “can” and “can not” do. Jesus is coming to rewrite the script...HE’s saying you can do “all things” or “any thing” through Christ. So we need to reprogram ourselves back up to where we are supposed to be.

**Isaiah 55:8 KJV**

*8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.*

**Proverbs 23:7 KJV**

*7 For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he:*

We can't climb any higher than we think we can. So, we have to find out what God thinks and says that I can do and take that and reprogram my mind with it. Because, for me to walk on the water I'm going to have to get my mind in harmony with my spirit. If I don't, my mind will hold my spirit captive and I can't walk on water, part the red sea, make it through another day.

Lets look at this story about Peter walking on the water...

**Matthew 14:22-26 AMPC**

*22 Then He directed the disciples to get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent away the crowds.*

*23 And after He had dismissed the multitudes, **He went up into the hills by Himself to pray.** When it was evening, **He was still there alone.***

*24 But the boat was by this time out on the sea, many furlongs [a furlong is one-eighth of a mile] distant from the land, **beaten and tossed by the waves, for the wind was against them.***

*25 And in the fourth watch [between 3:00—6:00 a.m.] of the night, Jesus came to them, walking on the sea.*

*26 **And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified and said, It is a ghost! And they screamed out with fright.***

Let's stop right here. So here's a situation where Jesus is coming to them, coming to their rescue supernaturally. He's coming to them in a way they don't recognize because He is not walking according to the flesh but according to the spirit. (The dark knowledge minds are saying, this is impossible - but with God, all things are possible!)

**Romans 8:1 AMPC**

*8 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.*

We have to walk/live by faith and not by sight... so how does faith flow?

**Romans 10:17 KJV**

*17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

What we found in 2 Peter Chapter 1, is that faith is established by righteousness. Meaning that the platform of righteousness is what faith is built on. Unless we take righteousness and let it possess us, it's very difficult to walk in the kind of faith that will put you out walking on the water like this.

When God told Jesus to do anything, He could do it, because it was the will of the Father. His Will is not always easy in the natural. But, God will always give you what you need in abundance...not your wants, but your needs to accomplish the Plan for your life that He has in store for you.

What “you want”, is the very thing that will take you away from God's Will and Plan and Purpose for your life and leave you wanting for the “things” that God said He would supply - your needs.

Here's Jesus replying to everyone on that boat...

**Matthew 14:27-31 KJV**

*27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; **it is I; be not afraid***

*28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, **if it be thou,** bid me come unto thee on the water.*

The is verse 28 in the Amplified:

**Matthew 14:28 AMPC**

*28 And Peter answered Him, Lord, **if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.***



Why did Peter ask this? *Eccl 8:4 KJV - Because where the word of a king is there is power* –if it's of God it will be done.

**Matthew 14:29 KJV**

*29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, **he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.***

Let's stop right there, Peter is challenging his own potential, (dark knowledge). He's saying if that is you, tell me to come to you on the water. I call that a righteous thought!

It's amazing how unrighteousness destroys initiative, it destroys initiative. In other words, you don't think of anything new, nothing different, you think just like everyone else thinks. We want to make everyone happy about where we are so lets stay right here and play it safe (let's be inferior - don't want people to think I'm superior or different).

What I'm saying is, Peter got out of the boat. He got out of the natural way of thinking. He said I'm coming out of the fear of failure, he said I'm coming out of the comfort zone. I'm coming out of the inferiority complex, I'm coming out to take that which God said for me to do and have.

Everyone likes you to be just right where "they" are at, full of fear, playing it safe, no faith, living far below their potential. Don't make them look bad (that's going back to inferiority and superiority).

You can hang around the same friends who might not talk right, maybe do things you don't really agree with and are afraid to change because you don't want to lose their friendship. You are afraid to better yourself or be more righteous, or change your conduct.

**But this is what Peter did: he got out of the boat!**

What he was doing was manifesting the potential that you and I have in us. Because if you look at the life of Jesus and Jesus was the Righteous One, but He also came to show us and demonstrate to us what a righteous person could do. (Faith without acts of obedience leads to death and you won't have the faith unless you're righteous).

He did supernatural things: He was fearless in the face of storms in Mark 4. When this storm pops up and the disciples who were full of fear said, "Lord we are going to die, Lord wake up don't you care about us?" He got up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea in verse 39 "peace be still."

Notice He rebuked the wind first. Why? Because satan was behind the storm and Jesus was master over satan. He was master because He was the Son of God but also as one who knew His rights as royalty in the Kingdom of God. You and I are joint heirs with Jesus Christ and have the same rights and privileges as He does - He said so. Jesus came to show you and I how to do it, not to show you and I that we can't do it...

Remember when Jesus finished ministering to the people and He sends HIS disciples in the boat to go the other side? As they were going out into the water, the Bible said, the wind was contrary. Meaning, the forces were against him. But then He came to them walking on the water and they cried out for fear saying this is a spirit. That was a revelation because HE was walking in the spirit, HE wasn't walking by the limitations of HIS flesh because being in the flesh He would sink.

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With that new nature we can think new because the thoughts of the righteous are right. When Peter saw Jesus walking to him on the water he said, "If that be you, tell me to come to you on the water." **Most people aren't like that...that's a new way of thinking and talking.**

**Peter was thinking outside of the natural, a new way of thinking, he wasn't letting people in the boat influence him to what he could and couldn't do.** I'm telling you that there are people in your boat (circle of influence) that are trying to talk you out of the big life that God has called you to. (The devil makes you think small) What you need to do is get out of the boat or kick them out so you can do what God has called you to do.

God doesn't call you to do small things (He needs to trust us with the small things so HE knows we are ready for the big things). God is a big God, if you would just hook into His ability you could do big things.

That's the problem with some people who try to shrink God down to some small project. HE doesn't think small and He's got a problem with you thinking like that – have you no king in you?

Do you have a friend that you can call if you needed a big favor, a party planned or something big done? But then there's the other friend who you don't call because they think small with a tight budget even though it's your money and you say make it big?

It is very important for us to start thinking bigger...God, I don't just want my son to get saved, I want him to be passionate for you and do great things where ever his feet go. I don't want to just get by, you are the God of the abundance in everything.

I just hope my wife and I can just stay together...no, He wants you to be an example of what a man and a wife biblically is supposed to look like with honoring and respecting one another.

We need to think big to get up on that level – start thinking big with everything – Jesus didn't mind Peter asking Him is that you who bid me to come? **He didn't mind that Peter wanted to walk on water just like HIM.**

Peter got out of that boat and started walking on the water to go to Jesus. So, here's Peter walking on the water and I can just hear his buddies now saying, **“Get back in the boat Peter, get back right now. That's the problem with you, you're always trying to show off or be somebody you're not”.**

You know how people are when you start getting out from under their control. They just want you to wake up, go to work, get your paycheck come home, pay your bills and smile while you're doing it.

If you're hanging around some friends and they are not going anywhere - someone is going to have to go overboard. **Either you are becoming like them or they are becoming like you.**

**There is no middle road, you're not just associating, you are becoming - you are becoming like them or they are becoming like you. So if they haven't changed then you must have changed.**

Church isn't a place to go hide, it's a place to come regroup. We need to start acting like royalty, if something is wrong royalty doesn't say “oh no now what” - it says “oh yeah, I'm going to decree a thing.”

If someone wants to talk about you, they're going to do it whether you go or stay, so you might as well go.

So, get up and do what God has called you to do! Who cares what anyone else says. I told you a couple of months ago that I used to care what people thought of me...I'm talking about the scoffers and the ones who told me I was crazy for leaving my job/career to do what I'm doing but I don't care. I can't tell you how much I don't care because God has something for me to go do that's eternal and not temporal.

You have a purpose and that purpose isn't to sit down and be worrying about what everyone else is saying and thinking. That purpose is to get going and being about your fathers' business.

**Ecclesiastes 8:4 KJV**

4 Where the word of a king is, there is Power.



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