

“This I Know”

by

Ellis P. Forsman

“This I Know”

by

Ellis P. Forsman

October 7, 2011

“This I Know”

1 Kings 17:24

1 Kings 17:24, “*And the woman said to Elijah, Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth.*”

Have you ever had the following experience?

You were put in a position where you must take a stand? The stand was not going to be popular, even though it was right.

You took your stand, thinking others (or another) would stand with you. But, to your surprise, you were all alone. You stood for the truth by yourself. It was very difficult because of the pressure.

I am sure that most of us have had experiences like this at one time or another.

Paul had an experience like this:

He had problems with Alexander the coppersmith.

2 Tim. 4:14-16, “*Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works: Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly withstood our words. At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.*”

Paul said, “...*no man stood with me ...*”. He stood alone! It required great convictions and courage.

1 Cor. 15:58, “*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.*”

Jesus had an experience like this, too:

He was arrested and tried alone. The disciples forsook Him. Peter ran, too.

Regardless of the circumstances, God’s man is never alone.

Jesus promised this. Matt. 28:18-20, “*And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”*

Listen to this exciting verse in Psalms 56:9, “*When I cry unto thee, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God is for me.*” Did you hear that?

Let’s spend a few minutes studying some applications of this truth: Why is God for me? Do you know why?

Here are some reasons we know that God is for us:

Because the Bible teaches it.

I am the result of a special act of creation by the hand of God.

I am created in His image. Gen. 1:26-27, “*And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*”

Of all of God’s creation, we are unique, for we were created in His image.

The scriptures provide strength and comfort:

- 2 Pet. 1:3, “*According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.*”
- Jude 1:3, “*Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.*”

There are scores of Bible promises to the faithful:

- 1 John 4:4, “*Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.*”
- Eph. 3:20, “*Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,*”

Because I am in Christ.

There is no condemnation:

- Rom. 8:1, “*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*”
- Eph. 1:7, “*In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;*”

This a place of protection:

- 1 John 4:4, “*Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.*”

This truth provides comfort.

Because of the Holy Spirit.

He was given to us to help.

- Acts 2:38, “*Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*”
- Acts 5:32, “*And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.*”

He guarantees God’s approval:

- Eph. 1:13, “*In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,*”
- Rom. 8:9, “*But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.*”
- 1 Pet. 4:17, “*For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?*”

Because of answered prayer:

This is a great power source:

- James 1:2-7, “*My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be*

perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

- 1 Thess. 5:17, “*Pray without ceasing.*”

God answers prayers:

He gives what we need, not what we want. Faith is the key to unlock His storehouse.

Results of God’s being for me:

Fear and doubt are gone:

2 Tim. 1:7, “*For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.*” Perfect love casts out fear.

Dare to be bold:

Like Peter and the early Christians. Acts 4:11-13, “*This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.*”

Matt. 28:18-20, “*And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*”

Don’t worry about what others may think of you when you are doing the Lord’s work.

Some things espoused in the world are so astoundingly stupid, only a “sophisticated intellectual” would believe them.

Have courage and you will overcome the world. With Christ you can be a winner every day.

- Phil. 4:13, “*I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*”
- Matt. 5:8, “*Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.*”

Conclusion.

How about you? Do you believe God is for you? He has promised it.

- He has proven it. 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.”*
- Rom. 8:31-39, *“What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God’s elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

The question is, “Are you for God?” Your actions and attitude give the answer.

Joshua 24:15, *“And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”*

Here’s what I know for sure: God is for me!

