

# When Circumstances Fail

## The Devils Two Tricks

Mark 4:16-17      Vs. 16: The Word in seed form

Vs. 17: The seed contains everything necessary to produce fruit. Themselves is referring to our mind, will, emotions, thoughts and feelings. This is the soil needed to reproduce the seed sown.

James 1:2 says it's not "if" but "when" we face tests and trials.

Verse 16: The first thing the Word produces is gladness. Gladness affects the way we feel. Gladness is an emotion that is produced by a Word thought that produces a feeling. When we try to live off the "feeling" we experienced when we heard the Word, we can only endure for a short time.

Verse 17: We can live off the feelings produced by gladness until we are faced with either an affliction or a persecution. An affliction is a circumstance or a difficult situation. A persecution is a people problem.

## Afflictions and Persecutions

These are the only tricks the Devil has that he can use against us. The only reason people become offended is because they don't know that the Word has unparalleled authority over any afflictions or persecutions that the Devil can use against them.

Hosea 4:6 tells that we are destroyed because we lack knowledge of the Truth. Because we lack knowledge of the Truth, we become offended. Our feelings begin to change from glad to sad and we then find ourselves (our soulish man) under the circumstances instead of above the circumstances. When this happens, we now find ourselves being controlled by circumstances or people. We find ourselves in bondage to the usual rules and patterns of life.

## Knowing the Truth

John 8:31-32      If you continue in my Word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Everyone is faced with facts or truth. I call a fact “a” truth. The problem isn’t that we’re faced with problems but how we respond to the problems we face. Many times, we are calling “facts” truth. They are only “a” truth that is seen with our physical eyes. We must be able to see “the” truth with the eyes of our inner man. When we know “the” truth, it supersedes “a” truth and frees us first from ourselves and secondly from what people think about us.

### **Circumstances**

Everyone faces circumstances good and bad. We often think that all circumstances are bad, however some circumstances are good.

For example, if you have \$100 but need \$1000 this is a circumstance that is working against you. However, if you have \$1000 and only need \$100, this circumstance is working for you.

### **Dealing with Bad Circumstances**

When you have \$100 but need \$1000, this is a circumstance that is working against you and you must deal with it. If you don’t deal with this negative circumstance it will destroy you. Circumstances are designed to work for you, not against you. We are often faced with bad circumstances because of wrong decisions and motives.

### **Life and Godliness**

II Peter 1:3            We have been given all things that pertain to life and godliness. Life here is referring to our natural life and godliness is referring to our spiritual life. We have been given everything for the success in our spiritual and natural life.

Becoming successful as a Christian in the natural world requires two things:

1. Our natural success is based on the condition of our soul and the condition of our soul is based on the renewing of our mind.
2. All natural success is based on our ability to “see” God’s provision beyond our circumstances.

### **The Third Dimension**

Circumstances and people problems are two dimensional and a three-dimensional realm is the ability to see beyond our circumstances. We were created to live in a three-dimensional world. The third dimension is the realm of the spirit.

## **Five Areas of Life**

Each of us has five areas of life that we deal with every day. Those five areas are:

1. Spiritual
2. Physical
3. Emotional
4. Social
5. Financial

Becoming successful spiritually is being born again. However, to become successful physically, emotionally, socially and financially requires renewing our minds to the Word. It's the blood for your spirit and the Word for your soul.

We must remember our natural success is not based on the fact that we are a Christian but on the condition of our soul which gives us the ability to see beyond our circumstances.

Until we can see beyond the circumstances we face, we will be under the circumstances. We were never designed to live under the circumstances of life but above them. We are the head and not the tail, above and not beneath. We were designed to be the lender not the borrower.

Colossians 2:10      And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power.

A Christian that is complete doesn't have to worry about himself and can spend his time giving to others. When we know, we are complete in Him our speech will always be full of grace and seasoned with salt and we will know how to answer every man.

## **Wisdom and Knowledge**

Isaiah 33:6 says that wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of our times. Wisdom is God's part and knowledge is our part. When wisdom and knowledge are interwoven, the result is understanding.

## **Abba Father**

In Romans 8:15      "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry Abba Father." The word Father means that God is the Father of our spirit. Abba, on the other hand means that God is the Father of our soul.

When we allow the Father to become Abba to us we have entered the third dimension or the ability to see beyond our circumstances.

### **Living Soul**

Genesis 2:7 tells us that when God formed us out of the dust of the ground and then breathed in us His life we became a living soul. The Hebrew word for living is spirit. Man became a spirit soul. Man's soul and spirit were the same. They were one.

When sin entered the picture the spirit part of Adam died leaving the soul to be influenced by the nature of the flesh or the two-dimensional realm (or negative circumstances.) Because Adam's spirit was dead he didn't have the ability to see beyond his circumstances. He was trapped and doomed to the usual rules and patterns of life because of the god of this world's system.

### **This Changes Everything**

When we were born again our dead spirit received the life of God and was re-created. Everything that God is we are in our spirit. When we renew our mind to the truth of the Word, our spirit and soul become one. When this happens, we are once again in our original position and able to see into the third dimension. When this happens we now have the ability to see beyond our circumstances.

### **Seeing Produces Change**

In II Corinthians 4:18 Paul writes the following; "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things, which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal".

This verse does not tell us to do anything except look at things are differently.

### **In Closing**

Our circumstances are often in control of our soul, but our soul has the ability to control our circumstances.