

# Have You Lost Your Mind?

*Philippians 2:5, Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus...*

## *Confident in the Power of God*

“If” is one of the biggest words in the English language, though it is only two little letters. We place conditions on activities all the time. “If the weather is good,” “if I get there in time,” “if I have enough money,” “if my grades are good enough.” In this life, we cannot escape conditions.

The same applies to our service to God. While His love toward us is unconditional, our salvation depends on our love toward Him (John 14:15). God is unmovable, He is unchangeable, He is Almighty. The only thing that can keep us away from Him is our decision to reject Him and selfishly follow our own desires.

Christ showed a great confidence in the power of the Father in His teachings. He ended the model prayer with an affirmation: “For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever” (Matthew 6:13).

When it came to the scheme of redemption, Christ again displayed confidence in God’s power. Read Matthew 16:21; 17:22-23. There was no “if” in these words. Jesus knew what was coming, and He knew that the Father’s will would be accomplished. The apostles sorrowed because they did not yet understand that this was all a part of God’s plan.

When the Day of Pentecost came, it was revealed to them more clearly. Read Acts 2:22-36. Peter and the others could look at the whole picture, going all the way back to the prophecies concerning Christ, and they now had full confidence in the power of God with this fuller perspective.

Where is our confidence today? We can look back at the fulfilled prophecies, and we can look forward to the promises of God. We know that He will accomplish what He promised,

and any “if” that we add onto that statement is conditional upon our actions, not His power.

Read Romans 6:1-10. When a person is baptized for the remission of sins, he dies to sin. “Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” What does Paul say we can have confidence in? “Knowing...that our old man was crucified with Him...that we should no longer be slaves to sin.” “Knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more.” We can have confidence in the power of God, knowing what He has done. Read 2 Corinthians 4:13-14.

As you read through the New Testament, notice how many times a statement of confidence is made, when the writers use words such as “will,” “shall,” “know,” and “can.” If there are any conditions placed on these statements, the responsibility to meet such conditions fall on us. God has accomplished what He intended to accomplish. It is now our responsibility to act accordingly.

Our confidence in God’s power is rooted in humility. Read Psalm 44:6-8; James 4:10; Philippians 4:13. Any talent or ability that we have comes from God, and it is through His power that we can accomplish anything.

Because of our confidence in His power, we can approach His throne in prayer. Read Hebrews 4:14-16; 1 John 5:14-15. If we seek His will and trust in His power, we will be blessed.

One of the things that we must pray for is boldness in proclaiming His truth to a lost and dying world. Read Acts 4:29. People all around us need Jesus, and we must be bold in teaching His Word, understanding that it is not our eloquence, but the gospel of God that will save. Read Ephesians 6:13-20. We need to prepare ourselves with the whole armor of God so that we are not a hindrance, but recognize that it is God’s power that does the actual saving.

Christ had confidence in the power of God to accomplish what He promised. Let us have that mind in us today.