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Be Strong In The Lord

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BE STRONG IN THE LORD....

INT: * 3 N.T. passages teach us 6 great assurances:
 I Cor. 16:13-14. II Tim. 2:1-3. Eph. 6:10-13.

I. WHAT ARE THE 6 ASSURANCES FROM MY LORD?

1. SATAN CANNOT overwhelm you in this life. Why?
 2. YOU can drive the Devil out of your life.
 James 4:7.
3. SIN CANNOT overpower you in this life. Why?
 4. YOU can put off the old sinful person.
 II Cor. 5:17. Col. 3:9. Lie not...seeing..
5. HELL CANNOT triumph over you in this life. Why?
 6. YOU can be strong in the lord!!!
 * Romans 8:35-39.

II. A LOGICAL QUIZ ON SPIRITUAL ENERGY: III.

1. An electric locomotive dead on the track.
Blame? POWER of electricity? DISCONNECTION!!
 POWER PLANT? NO. Cause!!!
2. Hospital patient has no appetite and cannot enjoy a starlit sky at night. Cannot go out.
Blame? GOODNESS of food? BEAUTY of night?
NO! Blame the illness. The cause!!!
3. A man cannot call a Flower by name, nor can he recite a Poem he once knew.
Blame? Indite the iris or the rose?
 Bemean the charm & beauty of poem?
NO! Blame the cause! Forgetful man!
4. A Christian wears the name, / but is dead on the track, has no ^{Sp.} appetite, enjoys no beauty, remembers no poems. Not powerful in life.
Blame? Christ? Food? Flowers? Stars?
 Poems? Cause!!! SELF!

ANSWER: If we live powerless lives as weaklings, cowards and sinners, it is because we are not CONNECTED properly TO THE POWER!!!

III. PAUL WAS A POWERFUL CHRISTIAN BECAUSE HE WAS CONNECTED TO THE POWER. You can be too!!!

1. He KNEW where the Power was! II Tim. 1:12.
Energy is expensive today! Rom. 8:18.
mat. 28:18.

Can be!

- 2. Paul LEARNED personal, physical control over his BODY! I Cor. 6:19-20. Phil. 4:11.
- 3. Paul developed the POWER to do ALL things requested of him by the Lord! Phil. 4:13.

Ill. Our word, STRENGTH, means: twisted-together"- like several strands of rope or wire. More strands, more strength! *Ps. 27:1,4 beautifully expressed! TOGETHER WITH GOD!

Knew Blessings!

- 4. Paul EXPECTED eternal-BENEFITS from his exercise of the POWER-of-Jesus living in him. II Tim. 4:6-8. Bold and unafraid. PAUL WAS STRONG IN THE LORD...MIGHTY OAK!

INV: Paul said YOU can be a Mighty Oak for Jesus too! Paul said there is a crown STRONG!!! awaiting YOU there too!

PROBLEM: Satan dwarfs CHRISTIANS like the Japaneese dwarf cherry trees.

They cut the TAP ROOT.
Tree lives! / Has surface roots. /
No depth in the soil. / Always weak
and little. 12" - 18" trees.
cute, but worthless. No fruit.

YOUR Tap Root to POWER is your FAITH in Christ!!

REALLY BELIEVE??? Mk. 16:15-16. Lk. 13:3.
 REALLY GROWING??? II Pet. 3:18.

If not...CAN...^{*grow*}in the STRENGTH OF THE LORD and the POWER OF HIS MIGHT!!!