

Who or what is on the north side of you? No, no...put your compass away. I don't mean that literally. I mean, what is the obstacle that God wants you to face? Are you avoiding it hoping it will go away? Maybe you're trying to run away from it but you still see it looming in your rear view mirror; are you afraid its even closer than it appears? Before you get the wrong idea about what this article's message is let me tell you that it is not designed to build your self-esteem and confidence to a point of making you feel like you can take on the world with your bare hands, and win. In fact, the point here is just the opposite. If you feel completely inadequate to deal with the obstacles in your life as you lie in a fetal position cowering and shaking in the mighty shadow of the enemy... Great start!

The Apostle Paul made a seemingly paradoxical statement when he penned the words "my strength is made perfect in weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9)." The world would say, "I can do this task because of the skills that I have developed or the degree that is hanging on my wall," not so, for Paul. His first step to finding power to effectively handle a problem was to first come to an end of himself and recognize his own weakness.

Many Christians make the mistake of trying to fight spiritual warfare with the strength of their carnal weapons. This is as useless to the Kingdom of God as throwing Bibles at tanks is on a physical battlefield. No, our weapons, as children of God, that we need to utilize in this out-in-out fight with the adversary and his dark realm are truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the Word of God, and prayer (Ephesians 6:10-18). Without arming yourselves with these powerful weapons you might as well stay put cowering in the corner because you will not stand, but rather, be tossed about in the ragging torrents of Satan's evil fury.

Let's look to the proverbial north again. What do you see? One day when Gideon looked to the north he saw a sight that was so disturbing it probably made him shake in his sandals. After all, when the angel of the Lord found this "mighty man of valor (Judges 6:12)" he was hiding in fear down at the winepress threshing wheat (Judges 6:11). Is it not great that God sees us for who we will become, with His help, and not who we are right at the moment? Anyway, what did Gideon see that was so upsetting to him? It was the armies of the east, 135,000 strong solders ready for battle and bloodshed.

Gideon immediately had a problem when he was placed at the helm of the Israelite army, his 32,000 men didn't look too commanding compared to the 135,000 men of the Midianites. God saw the situation from a different perspective, which He usually does. He said that Gideon's army had too many men and would take the credit for their victory (Judges 7:2). Through a series of tests God dwindled Gideon's army down to 300 men. They put the battle in array and even though the Israelites were outnumbered 450 to 1, at the end of the day, Gideon's big 300 man army were victors and God received the glory. Can you imagine the wives of the escaped Midianites... "There were how many of them?"

So, look to your north, identify what God is leading you to face, cower in fear, find your strength in the power of God that kicks in when you find the weakness in yourself, and when you get the victory, remember...

About HIM - Look To The North

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It's ALL about HIM!



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