

Strengthen Yourself in the LORD – pt. 1 “Preparing for your Promotion”

*** Before EVERY single Victory, there must be a BATTLE

*** True STRENGTH can only be gained through a STRUGGLE

*** God isn't concerned about strengthening our muscles, His concern is STRENGTHENING our SPIRIT.

Eph. 3:16 –

I pray that He may grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might, through His Spirit in the inner man.”

**** 2 things that will cripple us as Believers –**

1. **Bitterness & Resentment** (Unforgiveness)
2. **Disappointment** (Not knowing how to bring strength to ourselves)

//→ It ACTUALLY took between 10-13 YEARS before David was able to RECEIVE what he was PROMISED by God to RECEIVE

//→ During that time, he was being GROOMED by GOD for that Position

//→ God will use bad things in our lives to STRENGTHEN us through STRUGGLE, to PREPARE us for PROMOTION & His Divine PURPOSE

**** Being TESTED through TRIALS builds CHARACTER in us...

- You KNOW You're having a pretty bad day when even the DEVIL rejects you!

//→ So David was Rejected :

1. By his FAMILY
2. By SAUL
3. By his own PEOPLE the Jews
4. By the PHILISTINES

5. NOW by his OWN MEN, HIS CLOSEST FRIENDS

//→ GOD cannot place something **WEIGHTY** on a **WEAK** foundation that hasn't been **TESTED**.

*** God has to see how much our Foundation can carry, and the **ONLY** way that is figured out is through **TESTING**

//→ The Strength of our Foundation is **DISCOVERED** through **DIFFICULTY**

James 1:2-4

“**2**My brothers and sisters, be very happy when you are tested in different ways. **3**You know that such testing of your faith produces endurance. **4**Endure until your testing is over. Then you will be mature and complete, equipped for everything in need of nothing.”

//→ **DAVID STRENGTHENED HIMSELF** in the **LORD**, and then he was able to come **BACK** to the guys and say “Now **COME ON**, we have **WIVES** and **CHILDREN** to get back!”

***** The **TURNING POINT** in **ALL** of this, was Davids **ABILITY** to **STRENGTHEN HIMSELF** in the **LORD**

//→ We will **NEVER** come into the **FULLNESS** of **WHO** God made us to be, we will **NEVER** experience the **FULLNESS** of our **DESTINY**, until we learn how to **STRENGTHEN OURSELVES** in the **LORD**...

**** The very **NEXT** Scene in Davids life is **PROFOUND** – he **THEN** becomes **KING**

//→ Davids **LOWEST**, **DARKEST MOMENT** was the **Back Door** to His **PROMOTION!**

//→ The very moment where it **LOOKED** like he was the **FURTHEST AWAY** from Gods **PROMISE** to make him **King** –
..... was the very **LAUNCHING PAD** **into** the **PROMISE** from God!

//→ How to get POSITIONED to STRENGTHEN YOURSELF in the LORD: Become Un-Offendable

**** I Refuse to be Offended by what's happened & I Refuse to blame God.

→ Since God's entire PURPOSE is to BLESS OTHERS through us, then we can't be CHAINED to OTHERS through OFFENSE.

//→ The TEST of PROMOTION: WHO BENEFITS from it? How are others BENEFITING from your BLESSING??

//→ David made a MARK on the Heart of God SO Profound, that God said – “MY Son, I'm going to have Him called YOUR Son”

//→ REMEMBER – The TURNING point in Davids Life was LEARNING how to STRENGTHEN HIMSELF in the LORD