

“Positioned for Success: 2020”

Pastor Al Brice | Sunday, January 5, 2020

2 Chronicles 20:15-17 NKJV: ¹⁵ And he said, “Listen, all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the Lord to you: ‘Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God’s. ¹⁶ Tomorrow go down against them. They will surely come up by the Ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the brook before the Wilderness of Jeruel. ¹⁷ You will not need to fight in this battle. **Position** (to station oneself or with others to take a stand) yourselves, **stand still** (to arise and stand one’s ground; to withstand) and see the **salvation** (*yešû’â: deliverance, victory, prosperity, health, rescue from danger*) of the Lord, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!’ Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord is with you.”

*** The day you received Jesus as your Lord, God Positioned you for success in every area of life (Ephesians 1:19-23; 2:4-6 NKJV).**

*** Every step of your life has been ordered by God.**

Psalm 37:23 NJKV:

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord,
And He delights in his way.

²⁴ Though he **fall** (*fail or come up short*) he shall not be utterly cast down;
For the Lord upholds him with His hand.

²⁵ I have been young, and now am old;
Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken,
Nor his descendants begging bread.

*** God orders your steps but you must position yourself in order to fulfill that which He is ordering for you, and then you begin the stepping.**

*** How you Position yourself will determine your successes (1 Peter 5:6-11 NKJV).**

1. **Humility = His promotions:** Humility is motivated by love, inspired by grace, demonstrated through obedience, and victorious by faith.

Philippians 2:5-9 NKJV: ⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. ⁹ Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name.

Proverbs 11:2 AMP: When pride comes [boiling up with an arrogant attitude of self-importance], then come dishonor and shame, But with the humble [the teachable who have been chiseled by trial and who have learned to walk humbly with God] there is wisdom and soundness of mind.

2. **Casting: *Don't carry your cares into 2020; give it all to Him.***

How do I cast my care on God? (**Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV**)

3. **Be sober (*of sound mind; training the senses to judge things correctly*)**

Hebrews 5:14 AMP: But solid food is for the [spiritually] mature, whose senses are trained by practice to distinguish between what is morally good and what is evil.

(1Thessalonians 5: 5-9; 2 Timothy 4:5; 1 Peter 1:13-16)

...**and watchful.** You have an enemy but understand that he is already defeated. Don't be ignorant of his devices.

Mark 14:38 (NKJV Strong's): "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Mark 13:32-37 (NKJV Strong's): ³² "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. ³⁴ It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. ³⁵ Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning— ³⁶ lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. ³⁷ And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"

1 Peter 4:7-10 NKJV: ⁷ But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. ⁸ And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins." ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

4. **Resist everything that is not of God!! (Ephesians 6:11-18 NKJV)**

5. **Stand your ground in faith!! Renew your mind to God's will and fight!!**

1 Timothy 6:12 NKJV: Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

Romans 12:2 NKJV: And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

6. **Community:**

Acts 2:46-47 NKJV: ⁴⁶ So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.