



Monday, August 14, 2017

## [A Letter to a Friend: How to Overcome Doubt and Discouragement](#)

Dear Friend:

I see you have had a lot of trouble since you became a Christian. You have had great trouble and were wondering why God wasn't helping you. You haven't had an easy life, and the enemy of humanity has been greatly troubling you and trying to put you down, and to steal your new life away from you. You don't know why you can't have an easier time, and not have so many problems.

I would like to tell you about my special friend whom you are starting to get to know. His name is Jesus. He knows what you are going through, the problems you inherited, and knows the battles that you are fighting. But He has won the battle for you at the cross and has been given all power and authority. Matthew 28:18. Just let Him fight your battles for you and rest in His strength. He is pleading on your behalf to the Father.

Sometimes you have felt like you were ready to give up. **Are you ready to give up yet? Then let God take care of you.** Then allow Him to save you from your doubts and fears. Are you ready to let Him do this? Believe it or not your life will get better when you totally give up, and fall into the loving hands of God. **Giving up is not such a bad thing, if you will just rest totally in God's love. In fact, giving up is the best thing you could ever do! Providing you trust in God totally.** There is no room for doubts or fears when you give up and fall into His hands! When you fall into His loving hands, He will then take care of you, no more fear.

**Gather up the fragments that remain of the good things and blessings God has given you.** John 6:12. Don't talk through your doubts, fears and mistakes, or the mistakes of others. Don't dwell on them either. If you mention them aloud your ears hear them, reinforcing them in your brain. Don't gather up all of your problems, doubts and fears and dwell on them or present them to others. Instead, gather up what Jesus and His Father have done for you, and do not lose any of these blessings. Think about what God has done for you, and the joy you felt when you were baptized and gave your heart to the Lord. Think about how far God has taken you from where you were, and the battles He has helped you to win! Think of all the changes for the better that God has helped you to do. Think about all the blessings you have received, and all the knowledge about God and the truth that you have acquired. Instead of thinking of all of your troubles, trials and fears, think about what God wants to do for you and for all the

blessings He is giving you and wants to give you. Gather all of these up and thank Him for it! Gather up all of these and praise Him to others of what He has done for you. The antidote to doubt is to praise God and thank Him for all of His marvelous works.

**How do you get rid of doubt or discouragement you may ask?** You must get faith. **How?** Do what Paul declares here: “So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Romans 10:17 KJV. **Where does faith come from?** It comes from hearing. **Hearing what?** The word of God. **What does it mean to hear the word of God?** It means to read it, listen to it, receive it into your heart, and to do it by His grace. It means you don't turn away from what God is telling you to do in the Bible. **Is it really that simple to get faith? Is it really that simple to get rid of doubt?** Yes! It really is that simple! There is power in the word of God. When God spoke and said, 'Let there be light', there was light. Genesis 1:3. And for each day of the week when God spoke and said something, His word created what He said. Genesis chapter 1. **So how do you get faith?** By hearing the words of God that He speaks, believing them and doing them. **In God's word is contained the power to perform what He asks, this is how you get faith.**

**But how this and how that?** Stop asking how and start hearing His voice. Stop asking how, and start reading His word and believing. Stop asking how, and start really listening to His word and desire to keep it. I know that you want to keep His word, but listening to His word is the secret to how you can get rid of doubt and discouragement and to have faith! **The power to get rid of all your doubts are contained in His words.**

**It is impossible for God to lie,** therefore we have a strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us. Hebrews 6:18. If you want to be happy and get rid of doubt study the many precious promises of God for you to claim, and ask Him to help you meet their requirements so that they become yours. Peter says, **“Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature,** having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” 2 Peter 1:4 KJV. Peter ought to know about these things since he had walked and talked with Jesus, and been changed by His love. He had denied His Savior when Jesus was arrested and taken away to the priest's house where Jesus was being accused, but Jesus forgave him. Luke 22:54-62. After the cross Jesus told him to feed His lambs, letting him know that he had been forgiven. John 21:15. **Peter died as an overcomer.** He personally knew of Jesus saving grace, and the many precious promises for the believer. **Peter had had such a change from his impetuous and bragging nature before the cross, to the kind and humble evangelist, taking care of Jesus' sheep.** If Jesus can help the apostle Peter, He can help you too.

**Keep reading and studying the faith building stories throughout the Bible and make them your own.** ***These stories can be your life story in some ways too, did you know that?*** When you read these exciting stories of people who were faithful to God and served Him with joy and delight, this story of faithfulness can be yours too. The life of the faithful person in the Bible days doesn't have to be something you just read about, it can be your story too! *If you would want to take part in God's plan of Salvation, He would be delighted to share a peace of the kingdom with you* (Luke 12:32). When you give yourself to God, and hear His word and receive it into your heart, this will produce faith in your heart and help you get rid of doubt, because this is the power of God! Just believe it. It is not really as hard as many people want to

*make it, it is really quite easy!* **How can that be true?** People say that it is hard. **But it is not only hard, it is impossible for anyone to become a new creature, which is to live a righteous life, by themselves.** But it is easy when you let God, who is mighty to save, do it for you! It is hard and impossible for you to do it, but easy if you let God do it for you.

**Continue to yield yourself to your Heavenly Father, until you yield completely.** Obey Him in all things; pray for the ability of obeying Him all the way. When this happens you will be given great joy, which will help you to win this battle against discouragement and doubt. When this happens you will know that He loves you and that your salvation is secure with Him, because you kept confessing your sins and have received His Spirit, who will help keep you from falling. And then your whole life will change for the better, and you will devote yourself to Him, the one you love.

**The conclusion my dear friend:**

**Great and marvelous are the works of God!** Make Him your focus, and give Him the praise of your voice and heart, and receive great joy in your heart, then you will not worry about discouragement anymore, because God will be your fortress and your strength, and enable you to become an overcomer.

“And I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God. And they sang the song of Moses, the bond-servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, ‘**Great and marvelous are Your works, O Lord God, the Almighty; Righteous and true are Your ways, King of the nations! Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy; For ALL THE NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU, FOR YOUR RIGHTEOUS ACTS HAVE BEEN REVEALED.**” Revelation 15:2-4 NASB.

By [John Foll](#), written between 8/11/2017 and 8/13/2017.

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## White Raiment Evangelism:

**Our Website:** [www.WhiteRaimentEvangelism.org](http://www.WhiteRaimentEvangelism.org) **Email:** [WhiteRaimentEvangelism@gmail.com](mailto:WhiteRaimentEvangelism@gmail.com)

**Our YouTube:** [www.youtube.com/channel/UCkytJeBjbiasNsYeMxfnDKaQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkytJeBjbiasNsYeMxfnDKaQ)

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