

## Title: God Is Greater

Brandy Helton, Garden Gathering, 7/23/23

I just want to encourage everybody. Today the Lord is really trying to strengthen your faith. We have two options, faith or fear. Those are our options. If we are born again and saved through Jesus Christ, He has called us to live a life of faith. That faith is not in yourself. Our faith is in God as the Bible teaches us from Genesis to Revelation. "Have faith in God," Jesus said that. "Have faith in God. All things are possible with God. Have faith in God." We do not have faith in our faith. We have confidence in what we believe, and in whom we believe. Everybody say, "I have faith in God." That settles it.

We were all once without faith and without hope. Every one of us had to be born again to believe in this gospel, and to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. At that moment, we were taken out of doubt, unbelief and our lost state and transferred into the Kingdom of Heaven and God's family. We *had to* believe God, and what Jesus did when He died on the cross. We had to believe what He did was to save us, heal us, deliver us, protect us, keep us, give us wholeness, and give us eternal life.

We had to choose to believe this. What was your option? It was either Heaven or Hell. Everybody say, "Heaven or Hell." Two options, that is it, and you get to pick. Hallelujah! He gave us a choice. Because of what Jesus did, we have a grace extended us to believe God. So, we have to settle that once and for all. Today, I believe you are going to be encouraged and strengthened in His Word, and knowing that the Greater One is within you and for you.

### II Kings 6:12

These are some bad guys who are enemies of Israel and want to attack them and take over. God has His remnant. He has His people. He has His prophet who hears Him and speaks what He is saying. It is not a wise thing to try to come against God and His people. One of the kings of another nation is frustrated, because every time he tries to do something to Israel, it is thwarted. It is found out and stopped somehow or some way. He is discussing that with his people and is a little uptight about it. His servants explain to him what is happening.

Great Holy Ghost is hearing the enemy's plans and telling Elisha, the prophet of God, what those plans are. God, the Holy Ghost will *give* the commanders and the warriors of God, the insight and the wisdom to know what to do, how to do, when to do it, how to pray, and how to move. They are always ahead of the enemy's game. That is one little verse, but that is what is happening. God is just telling them what is going on. He hears everything. He hears their strategic plans at their table.

### II Kings 6:13-15

The enemy armies are surrounding them now, and the servant just happened to look up and see that this was going on. He is freaking out a little bit. He is scared.

### II Kings 6:16-18

That statement is well known. "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." "He saw," I love it. Elisha prayed that the servant would see, and the Lord opened his eyes and he saw. So, you can finish the story. The good guys win. All right! But, that is what it looks like as we walk in Kingdom realities on the Earth.

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We are all aware of a spiritual supernatural realm. Sometimes our Father helps you see in the spirit realm, those that are really for you. Angel armies, angels, the Light of God, impossible things, supernatural things that you would not normally see every day. This was one of those occurrences. We are talking about a battle for a nation, and God Almighty is in charge. Yes. He is opening the eyes of not only the prophet, but the servant. Here we go, the words you must never forget, "Do not fear, those who are with us are more than those who are with them." Kingdom reality every day while we walk out the Kingdom with God, with our family, at work, as we go and minister. We will receive this life. It is a great life. But, we have to remember as you go through the fire, as you go through trials and circumstances, that God is always with you. He will never leave you, fail you, or forsake you. We were singing that this morning. "I turned around and there He was," right? His goodness is always following us, because God is good.

Romans 8:31 *The Spirit assures of a final victory*

This is a familiar passage. The Lord is undergirding our faith in Him. He says, "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" Does that sound like what we just read in II Kings? It is the same Spirit. It is the same Holy Spirit, and the same Word of God, from Genesis to Revelation. It is the same story. While we are on the planet, we are wrestling not with flesh and blood, right? It is the same story, and every saint has to come into this revelation knowledge of, "God loves me. God is for me. God is on my side. God is fighting for me. God has the answers for me and my family. He knows where I am. He knows where He is taking me. He knows every detail about our life."

We have two options, fear or faith. So, we have to choose to believe what God says. That is what the apostle is writing of through his journey, right? "What then shall we say, if God is for us, who can be against us?" That will settle it for you. It does not matter what you are going through, because you all go through something. But, we have to settle this, "If God is for me, who can be against me?"

The Prophet would say, "Lord, open their eyes that they would see." If your eyes happen to be open, you would see the goodness of God surrounding you, providing for you, helping you, guiding you, and keeping you. By faith, we believe it before we see it. By faith, we believe what God says. Amen. Elisha believed it. He did not pray for himself. He asked for God to show the one walking with him, that he was raising up, you understand?

Romans 8:31-32

That is a big statement. He saved us. He has freely given us all things.

Romans 8:33-34

It is God who justifies. Who has been condemning you? Who has been criticizing you and cutting you down? Who has been lying to you about who you are or are not? "It is Christ who died and furthermore, is risen." Very important. That is it. Christ, who died and has risen, is the hope of the gospel. He is at the right hand of God, and He makes intercession for us. We know that after Jesus was crucified on the cross, dead and buried three days in the grave, the great Holy Ghost raised Him from the dead, and He appeared for awhile. Then He ascended back to the Father in front of their faces.

Believe it or not, that is what it looks like. That is what the Bible tells us. The good news is He is going to descend again. He is going to come again. Yes. That is the believers hope. It is so wonderful, and He is interceding for us, our Great High Priest. You say, "Well, no one is praying for me." Jesus is, and that is why we pray for one another, because we need each other. We need to encourage each other. Jesus is always praying for us.

Romans 8:35-37

After all of this, he speaks of the love of Christ. "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" Then, "in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." Love wins. He loved us. "For God so loved the world, He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him would not perish, but have eternal life." It is the love of God that restrains us. It is the love of God that causes us to believe. Faith works through love. We are receiving the love of the Gospel. We are receiving the love of God. "So, in all of these things, we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."

Romans 8:38-39

This is a kingdom reality of what is greater and who is for us. "Lord, open their eyes." Open their understanding, bring wisdom and revelation, and the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Know that God is with you and for you. What He is doing in the unseen realm, we may not always get to see, but the key is believing God. Have faith in God and His word. We have to be convinced. You know, when you are convinced of something. I cannot change your mind. You know, when you are convinced and you have to be immovable.

The doubter, the devil, is always going to come against your faith, and get you to doubt like him. That is where that doubt came from. That is the source. It is not anything else but the enemy, right? We have to be convinced in who God is, in this great gospel, in His love, in His word, and be immovable. When they persecute you, saying, "Well they are just never going to change. They are never going to give up. They are always going to say that same thing. I know what they are going to say, before they say it."

You say, "You are right. Because, I am persuaded. I am convinced. I am immovable. I know who God is, and He loves me." That is faith in God. Faith in yourself will not help you. But, we are to love ourselves as Christ loves us. The great commandment says love God with all your heart, soul, mind, will, and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself. Everybody's included here. Love wins, right?

The Bride of Jesus Christ shall not stop believing God and His Word, His Kingdom and Dominion in Jesus Christ. She is not going to stop. She is not going to change her stance or her mind about Christ. The Bride of Jesus is not going to be moved. The Bride of Jesus will not be shaken. Oh, she will go through the fire, but there was another One in the fire. You hear it? You can not silence the voice of God. The Word of God wins. Either we believe it or not. God will settle it. He is the Lord. You have to know this. So, when you are persecuted, and they come against your faith, say, "Bless them, Lord." But, you just remain at peace and obey God.

Just do what God has told you to do and have faith. "Do not worry about tomorrow," Jesus said. There are enough problems out there. You have enough to worry about. Do not do it. Anxiety, stress and worry are sin. We have to treat it as such. You have to treat it like a cancer, that wants to take you over with anxiety, stress and fear. Every one of us have experienced it or might have experienced it a few times. But, we have to know that, "God did not give us the spirit of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind. We have to choose fear or faith. All right, it is a choice. It will always be a choice, no matter what is coming our way. Truth!

Luke 8:22-25 Subtitled, "The storm is stilled."

In the spirit realm, we have the opportunity through Christ, to give commands and demands in the spirit world. Jesus Christ uses His authority on a raging sea. The disciples are learning and following their teacher, and He is demonstrating His faith. He allowed the storm to come. He knew what was coming. He is sleeping. That is awesome. So, they have to wake Him up. They are in fear, doubt and unbelief. The disciples say, "We are all going to drown or don't you care?" Scripture says, "He arose, and He rebuked the wind and the raging of the water."

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Now, I would have been one that was freaking out on the boat, right? Maybe you would have too, but it says, "It ceased, and there was a calm." Jesus said, "Where is your faith?" He asks, why are you fearful? You have little faith? Why is it you have no faith? That is what He says to us on the waters of life. He is there all along. All along, He is there with you. He is in your boat. He is on the seas. He is in the times of trouble, all along. That is what it looks like as we are growing up in God. He is not scolding us. He is empowering us with His faith, with His power, and with His words.

One word from God can change your life forever. You can be delivered from the spirit of fear. As we go through life, we can overcome. Yes. It says they were afraid, and it says they marveled. I liked that word. I think we are going to get to see a lot of "marvels," soon. We are going to marvel. Like, wow! You know, "Wow, God. Wow, man. This is incredible!" *We will* marvel at God. Marvel at Jesus. Marvel every time He grants you repentance and you change, you get free, get healed or He provides. We as the Body of Christ should be the number one at praise and worship. Give Him the glory for who He is. Yes.

They are still making Marvel movies and comic books. What is the point behind all that stuff? The supernatural realm where somebody came in with super strength or power to do something on Earth with humans. The ones in that dead religion who say, "Well, just bless God brother and walk on through till you get to Heaven one day." You can marvel there, but I don't think God is going to show up in your boat." That is what dead works does. That is what unbelief does. That is what religion does. There is no power or authority in dead works and religion.

That is why we preach Christ, and Christ crucified. The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation! You hear it? Truth! Everybody say, "facts versus faith." You will be persecuted because of your faith. All right, there may be facts in your journey such as financial, physical, emotional, spiritual, family, job, or whatever. But, faith is what shifts it. Facts are not your Lord, Jesus is, right! Have faith in God, because nothing is impossible with Him. That is what this whole journey of love on the planet is about.

#### Romans 1:16-17

He did not say that the just shall live by sight. He did not say the just shall live by facts. He said, "The just shall live by faith." It has always been that way. The just shall live by faith. Jesus Christ lived by faith. He said, "I have everything I need. My Father provides everything I need. I don't even do anything unless He tells me. I don't go anywhere unless He sends me. He sent me here to tell you about the Kingdom of Heaven. Repent and believe it."

Believe it, and faith comes with Him. Jesus came to a fallen world at just the time God said He was going to show up on the planet. He brought His faith to the Earth. The apostles are carrying that with the Gospel, the power of God for everyone who believes, to all people. He says, "Here comes the righteousness of God. God's way of doing things in His Holiness. He is righteous, He is holy, and He is pure. We are made right with God and it's from faith to faith. Faith to faith, everybody say, "faith to faith."

That is why we have all grown since we got saved. "Oh, thank you, Jesus." I know where I started. I was a little fearful. I'm just saying, "You only need a mustard seed of faith to believe this gospel." That is where we all started. Do not get all prideful. We started with a mustard seed of faith that was planted in our spirit. It took me over, and the Kingdom is within me. He took dominion, in my mind, in my emotion, in my soul, in my will and in my body. That is what happens. It is faith to faith, hallelujah! Faith to faith, that is it. We are becoming more and more like Jesus every day.

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Trust me, I have been on the cruise ship. You all who have been around me know this. I have been on the cruise ship where the waves are tossing the *ship* to and fro. I would go to the side holding on, declaring, "Peace, be still!" It did not be still. I was terrified. Speaking in tongues and praying, "Help me, Jesus!" I got through it. But, it looks like that. I am astounded that God would even give me courage to speak to it. That is faith to faith.

These ladies who just flew back from Africa said there was some heavy turbulence as they were flying back over the ocean. Everybody knows what flying in planes experiencing turbulence will do for you. You may not be a believing person, but you believe when you go through turbulence in the air, along with everyone else on the plane, praying, "God stop this turbulence," including the heathens who don't know what to say, but agree because they are afraid of crashing. They are afraid of falling and dying. It is not just the bumps, it is the effect of the bumps.

Some of the sisters were telling that for the first time they actually slept through all the turbulence and someone had to wake them up. "Jesus was sleeping in the boat," and somebody had to wake them up. One was a little nervous. Others are sound asleep. She said, "I just had to hold the hand of Jesus." I know what this is like. I've been through this. I hate turbulence. So do you! You just want to take the hand of the person next to you even though you do not know who they are. Kids are clinging to their parents. That is what it looks like in this life. Yet, He encourages us with who we are. We are going from faith to faith, amen!

We know that from the beginning, that is what God said. God spoke, and it happens. That is how God works. God speaks and it happens, because it was in His heart to do and then it happens. You know what, He gave us the same spirit, the same plan, the same way. He puts something in our heart. He says, "Now speak it, declare it, walk in it, and believe it." Yes. So, we believe, therefore we speak. This is how you got saved.

#### Romans 10:8

You can read all of Romans. It is awesome. If you are born again, you went through this. He says, "The Word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart." The word is near you in your mouth and in your heart. That is the word of faith that we preach. "If you confess with your mouth, the Lord Jesus and you believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved." Sozo, given eternal life, protected, healed, delivered, made whole, given peace, and eternal life. That is what that word means.

"For with the heart, one believes unto righteousness," there is that word again, "and with your mouth confession is made unto salvation and whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." That is how we came into the Kingdom. It is not going to change until we see Him face to face. Then out of our heart we are going to speak. "I love you, Jesus. Thank You, Jesus." You are going to be the ones running, falling down at His feet joy filled, because you are with Him forever. Yes! You won't be quiet anymore, Church. When you get to Heaven, that is what you are going to do. You are going to worship the One who saved you and bought you with His blood. The old is gone. New things have come.

#### II Corinthians 4:8-11

"I die daily," right? He said, "Take up your cross," and follow me, obey me, do what I say, choose my word. I die daily. "Your life is no longer your own. You have been bought by the blood of Jesus." That is it.

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II Corinthians 4:12-15

All to the glory of God. There are all these we are ministering to who are getting saved, and together as one, we are going to give Him all the glory.

II Corinthians 4:16-18

“The inward man is being renewed day by day.” Sounds like that “faith to faith” does it not? That turbulence on the plane really was just for a moment. Yes, the turbulence in life is but for a moment, but it's working for a more exceedingly eternal weight of glory.

“Father, I ask you to open their eyes.” There is that prayer, and they found that, “Oh my, God, we are surrounded by heaven, and they are for us.” For the things which are seen are just temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. That is the walk in this life. We are called to fulfill His word, His plans, and His purposes for our lives. Say, “fulfill.” He has a plan and purpose for all of us. The number one is, “to know Him.” That is it. Everything comes from that, “to know Him and to be loved by Him.” We have an eternal plan inside of us. He gets us on that path. He starts unfolding it. It is faith to faith, glory to glory.

Humans do a lot of crazy things, right? If you watch TV or YouTube you will see videos of people doing amazing or crazy things such as climbing Mount Everest, jumping out of planes, running a marathon, or diving in the ocean where sharks are. Jeff says divers are told when the sharks swim your way, “just put your hand up and gently wave or push them on their nose above their teeth and push them away.” There you go. Humans want to do things beyond their own flesh or supernatural. Who gives us the faith to do that? Should I go on or are you getting the picture?

Humans want to do things that are supernatural. What is it in the human that makes you want to do something like that? There is something in humans that is of God inside of us, seeking things above and beyond the natural. He has put something in humans, that is supernatural, to believe that they can do it. That they can win the race, fly in a little capsule to go to the moon and back, then go to Mars and back. You understand that is in us to do, and you all have your own journey. You have all done your crazy things. God is really stretching us out in our own faith. We have fear or faith. There is this wild side in humans. But, then there is also flat blatant stupidity. Humans can be dumb and ridiculous, right? We know this.

Yet there is something in us, to go beyond what we know humanly. God has put a Kingdom in us and it is going to take us beyond what we know according to our flesh. That takes you back to all the impossible realities in this Bible. There is no human way that some events could take place. God is going to get the glory! God is going to get the glory for the supernatural work He does in your life.

John 8:12

I am going to close with this for today. Wow. We were taken out of darkness and into the light. We have been talking on that, “I am the Light of the world.” Over all of it. All creation in all the galaxies and galaxies. All that God Almighty has created. Yes, He is the Light greater than the sun, right? He is the source of all life. “I am the Light of the world. He who follows me, who walks with me,” and these are covenant words, “shall not walk in darkness.” You have authority over darkness, because we are in Him and following Him. We have the Light of life. Death follows darkness. Light follows life. Yes, in Him we have life. “In Him we live and move and have our being.” You hear it?

He is really drawing attention to how great is that Light. “Do not fear beloved, those who are for us are greater than those who are against us.” The Greater One, the Light of God, the One that says, “I am the Light of the world,” says, “You are a city set on the hill,” you are a light of men.

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Go shine your light. He did not say go hide in your closet and tremble in fear. He said, "Stand and be firm in your faith." Do what is right and honorable to God. Be a witness for Christ. If they take you off Facebook, who cares? If they fire you from your work, who cares? We serve a greater King. It is that truth I am preaching to you which is scripture that is exhorting us today. Amen. Let's stand up and praise the Lord and thank Him for this.

Father, we thank you that your word is truth, and you have told us to follow you. This is how God does it. He believes in His heart, and He says what He believes and it shall be. You said, "Let there be light," and there was light. Here we are under the shadow of your wings hidden in you, and hidden in Light, who is the life of all men. Please encourage us all. Strengthen us all as we overcome fear with faith and facts with truth. Give us joy and peace in believing. As we are surrounded on every side, let us know that there are always more for us than against us. We are convinced and we are persuaded that "nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ." Seal it in our hearts today, Lord. Bless your people. May we go out in faith, power, health and wholeness to accomplish what you have for us this week. In Jesus' name, amen.