IS GOD SHOWING HIMSELF MIGHTY ON YOUR BEHALF?

Is God Almighty showing Himself mighty on your behalf? Is He representing you in all your affairs? I'm sure that every one of you would like to have God working on your behalf. 2 Chronicles 16:9 declares, "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him." The Amplified states, "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself mighty on behalf of those whose heart is blameless toward Him."

Is your heart blameless toward God? Are you being loyal to Him? Because whatever you truly desire **in your heart** is what you will eventually have. It is not a matter of what you *think* you want or even what you *say* we want, but what you truly want in your heart - that is what you will have. There is an incredible disconnect in most people's lives between the things they say they want and the things they really desire in their hearts. Often we never look deep enough to discover our heart's desires, or get to understand what truly motivates us. It's as if we don't want to know!

But God is looking for those whose heart is blameless toward Him. He wants to show Himself to be strong on their behalf. In fact, He wants to show Himself mighty on your behalf! So here is the question: "Are you, from your heart, being loyal to God or are there things which get in the way of your devotion to Him, things which you love or desire more?" What do God's eyes see when He looks at you? What desire is evident?

God grants to those who truly want Him, the strength to be loyal to Him and blameless before Him. So set your heart on Him alone. Love Him completely. Desire to be loyal to Him with all your heart, soul and mind. And God will show Himself strong for you! The Lord is constantly scanning the whole earth, looking for a special kind of person to defend. Someone on whose behalf He can exercise His mighty strength and power. This unique kind of person is someone whose heart is perfect toward Him! The Hebrew word translated "perfect" means "complete" and is only used in conjunction with the word heart, that is, "a perfect heart." Note, such perfection is not referring to your physical being, because it is your inner life that should be loyal, complete and blameless toward God.

Many think it is impossible to be blameless. Perhaps you are one of them. If so, please consider the scriptural evidence, and more important, make the necessary changes in your life. This is the account of Noah. "Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God." (Genesis 6:9). When Abram was ninety-nine years old. the Lord appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before Me and be blameless" (Genesis 17:1). "I have been blameless before Him and have kept myself from sin" (2 Samuel 22:24). "He holds victory in store for the upright. He is a shield to those whose walk is **blameless**" (**Proverbs 2:7**). "For the upright will live in the land, and the blameless will remain in it" (Proverbs 2:21). "The righteousness of the blameless makes a straight way for them, but the wicked are brought down by their own wickedness" (Proverbs 11:5). "The Lord detests men of perverse heart but He delights in those whose ways are blameless" (Proverbs 11:20).

"The righteous man leads a **blameless** life; blessed are his children after him" (**Proverbs 20:7**). "He who leads the upright along an evil path will fall into his own trap, but the **blameless** will receive a good inheritance" (**Proverbs 28:10**). "He whose walk is **blameless** is kept <u>safe</u>, but he whose ways are perverse will suddenly fall" (**Proverbs 28:18**)

There is something very significant here with regards to 'being blameless' or 'perfect'. And it's something we should all fully understand. It is specifically a **perfect heart** toward God that is mentioned in scripture and not a perfect heart in all things! Religious people spend much of their time trying to be perfect toward man, and to be seen as blameless in their own eyes. But God always looks at the **heart**. Your outer life (or physical existence) is subject to fluctuation because of your human frailties, and God recognises this fact. That is why He has chosen to look at your heart. He wants to see the real you!

You may not be able to achieve perfection in *all things* but your inner life <u>can</u> be perfect or blameless. Otherwise God would not bother scanning the whole earth for such people. Why would He? Observe David's commitment in **Psalm 101:2-3** (NIV): "I will walk in my house with a blameless heart. I will set before my eyes no vile thing." The psalmists resolve was sweeping - "no vile thing." Notice also that David determined to walk with a blameless heart before God at home. As Charles Spurgeon once said: 'What we are at home, that we are indeed!' If you cannot walk blameless toward God in your own home, you are unlikely to walk blameless in any other situation. When you get your heart right at home, your heart will be right elsewhere!

Just before handing over the throne to his son, King David prayed and asked the Lord to "give unto Solomon a perfect heart" (1 Chronicles 29:19). David must have know his son needed divine assistance in all things. Consequently, Solomon had "Al Shaddai" working on his behalf throughout his life, and the Bible says, "He prospered in all things" and, "God bestowed on him royal splendour such as no King in Israel ever had before" (Chronicles 29:25). Who would like some of the same? I know I would! But the million dollar question is this, "How can you sustain a loyal, complete and blameless heart toward God?"

I have found three basic qualities that must be present in order for your heart to remain "blameless" before Him. And these are qualities that we should cultivate in our Christian walk. They are - purity, humility and faith.

PURITY OF LIFE. In 2 Corinthians 6:14-16 the apostle Paul uses five elements to draw a dividing line between God and the world system. On the one side he places *Christ, light, righteousness, faith* and the *house of God*. On the other, he lists *satan, darkness, lawlessness, unbelief* and *false worship*. Paul states that you cannot mix these components, you must choose to live on one side or the other. Remember, a **perfect heart** will always locate itself on the side of God, of truth and justice, with no compromise. It is always loyal to this cause! How many Christians do you know who have one foot in each camp? Well, such people are being disloyal to the cause of Jesus Christ. He came to take us out of darkness and place us into the kingdom of light - where He Himself abides.

In another passage of scripture, Paul shares with Timothy another good reason for moral purity (godliness). 2 Timothy 2:19-21, "Everyone who confesses the Name of the Lord must turn away from impurity. In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some ignoble. If a man cleanses himself for the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared for any good work."

The simple truth brought out by this passage is this... Only you can make this choice. You choose what kind of vessel you would like to be in the household of God. You can be a vessel of honour or dishonour. And the criteria by which God decides who He will use for His eternal purposes here on earth are clearly spelled out in verse 21... "Those who purge themselves of dishonourable characteristics will be vessels of honour." The NIV says, "Will be used for noble purposes." God is constantly scanning the earth looking for people whose lives are pure on the inside. And He expects you to be asking the same question, "What's happening inside?" After all, before any vessel can be used it must be cleaned on the inside. The outside appearance is merely for decoration purposes.

(2) <u>HUMILITY OF MIND</u>. Humility should be the hallmark of any man or woman of God. God expects this quality to be evident in all of us. 1 Peter 5:5,6 says, "Clothe yourselves in humility toward one another, because God opposes (resists) the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up (promote you) in due time."

The corrosive effect pride has on a persons life can be seen clearly in the life of Ussiah, one of the Kings of Judah (2 *Chronicles 26*). At first his heart was pure and his attitude correct, and then he became very famous and successful. God's blessings were visible in his life. But then came his downfall. The problem? He was unable to handle success - he became riddled with **pride**. So God opposed him and struck him down with leprosy. God did not show Himself strong on his behalf, but rather, strong against him!

King Nebuchanezzar also fell because of pride. "But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened with pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne and they took his glory from him" (Daniel 5:20). Pride is totally against God's nature, which is love, and it is top of the list of things He detests or hates (Proverbs 6:16,17). Humility on the other hand brings God in on the scene - to lift you up and defend you. As well as doing great things on your behalf!

- (3) <u>PERSISTENT FAITH</u>. The Bible tells us that it is totally impossible to please God without **faith** (*Hebrews 11:6*). If you want God constantly working on your behalf, you must first "please" Him. Therefore, your faith should be relentless and unwavering. Here are four aspects of "faith" that reflect your **inner life**:
- Having true faith means that you genuinely believe that God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Phillipians 4:19). And your life displays this awesome truth! You never look to man for your supply, but look to the source and provider of every good thing.

- Having genuine faith means you believe that God delights in the **prosperity** of His people, and that Jesus came so you may have a super-abundant life (*Psalm 35:27 - John 10:10*).
 Prosperity in all matters of life is evidence that you are a true believer - a son or daughter of the Most High.
- Having faith also means that you believe God to be absolutely and fully trustworthy (Psalm 199:137,138). If you do not have complete trust in the faithfulness of God, you will never walk in faith. Faith is simply believing that God will do exactly what He said He'll do!
- Having faith means that you believe in God's mighty miracleworking power, that is, His ability to save, deliver and set free (*Mark* 9:23). And you fully accept that this **divine power** can effect your everyday life - positively!

PURITY, HUMILITY and FAITH. These are all heart matters, and you alone can determine the degree to which they will operate in your life. You alone can choose to be loyal and stand blameless before God. "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself mighty on behalf of those whose heart is blameless toward Him." So why not let God show Himself mighty on your behalf today!