

God's Got An Answer Series #2

God's Got an Answer When We Feel Defeated!

It is an overwhelming sense of discouragement.

It is a sense that life is falling apart and you can't get it back together.

It is the feeling one senses when one is battling with failure or loss. (habit, sin, relationship)

This is spiritually important because Satan desires to make us feel defeated, hopeless, at loss and ready to give up. When we feel defeated it directly relates to our trust and faith in God's purpose, plan and presence. It typically makes us ineffective in our service for God.

1. Don't be surprised; afflictions, hardships and trials come to everyone. Because of life's hardships, you will have times when you feel defeated!

Followers of Jesus Christ are hard pressed on every side, perplexed, persecuted and struck down (2 Cor. 4:7-10). In this world, the righteous will have many troubles (Ps. 34:19; John 16:33) and we need to realize that we will face trials of many kinds (James 1:2-4).

Don't be surprised we are not on a playground for our pleasure we are on a battlefield for our eternal soul.

2. We must understand that we are eternal beings having an earthly experience.

The earthly experience just determines which way we go for eternity. We have the choice of making a trip to heaven or hell. Confidently knowing where we are going highly impacts our attitude about the hardships we face.

Matthew 25:46; John 3:16; John 3:36; Matthew 5:11-12

3. Remember there is a final victory for us, no matter what happens in the earthly adventure we are still winners and we gain heaven.

Matthew 5:11-12; Romans 8:37-39

When you experience bone-crunching difficulties believe God's Word and receive His encouragement. Take comfort in the truth that, despite the defeat you may feel right now, in the end, you win.

The present is bearable when we're confident that the future is glorious.

4. Believe God and His Words more than you believe the world and Satan's words. Our feelings and thoughts of defeat directly reflect on our faith that God's Holy Scripture is truth and He will be with us even through the most difficult circumstances.

2 Corinthians 4:7-10; Psalm 34:19; John 16:33; Romans 8:28, 35, 37

Conclusion:

Don't be surprised at the conflict.

Remember we are focused on eternity, not the comfort of here and now.

We win in the end, we are not defeated.

Believe and trust in our faithful God and His Word.

In the shortest Psalm in the Bible, the Psalmist challenges us to remember the faithfulness of God. It will help us when we feel defeated.

Psalm 117:1-2 (NIV) ¹ Praise the LORD, all you nations; extol him, all you peoples. ² For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD.

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Conclusion:

- ▶ Don't be surprised at the _____.
- ▶ Remember we are focused on _____, not the comfort of here and now.
- ▶ We _____ in the end, we are not defeated.
- ▶ Believe and trust in our _____ God and His Word.

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