

## **DIVINE PROTECTION**

By Bill Subritzky

The believer in Christ is protected by the power of God.

In his first letter to the Jewish Christians dispersed throughout Asia, the Apostle Peter writes to them as follows:

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (1 Peter 1:3-5.)

Peter makes it clear that God is protecting and placing a guard around the believer in Christ. This is to protect us from the attacks of the enemy and to safeguard us as we walk with Christ.

This protection remains while we keep our faith in Christ and as we walk with Him, filled with the Holy Spirit, reading the Word of God and seeking to obey God at all times. If we turn away into deliberate sin we lose our faith in God and His protection.

It is while we continue to put our faith in God and obey him that this guard remains with us. It can be likened to being in a fortress or a castle. If we decide to leave the protection of the Lord by turning away from Him then we are in effect leaving this fortress of protection.

It is vital to note that we are kept by the power of God as we obey Him. This is an ongoing protection.

The power of God is the power of the Holy Spirit which we can receive in an immeasurable amount by being baptised in the Holy Spirit. This is evidenced by speaking in tongues as the disciples did on the day of Pentecost. This wonderful experience is available to every believer who seeks the power of the Holy Spirit.

As we walk in the Spirit, we can feel His power around us and within us. It is particularly evident when we proclaim the Gospel or pray for the sick or cast out demons.

This power never leaves us. The gifts and calling of God are without repentance. (Romans 11:29.) In other words God does not withdraw them. God does not withdraw the Holy Spirit from the believer.

When we ask for prayer for healing, we must remember that it is by the power of the Holy Spirit that we receive healing. Just as we are kept by the power of God through faith for the salvation which will be revealed at the end of time, so that same power of healing is always present.

We should always remember that when hands are laid on us for healing this same power of the Holy Spirit which will come upon us at that time remains with us at all times. We are protected by this power. Therefore even though we may not receive our healing immediately, the Holy Spirit is still present with the power to heal. As we continue to believe that that power is still with us at all times, then the healing will manifest.

Many people feel that if they are not healed immediately then they have not been healed. They do not realise that the power of the Holy Spirit for healing is still upon them. If they continue to believe that the power of the Holy Spirit is still on them healing will start to happen. Failure to believe this will quench the

power of the Holy Spirit.

I have seen prayer cloths which we have used to pray for the sick, although discarded after use, even 12 months later still have the power of the Holy Spirit upon them. Remember that when the body of a dead man was lowered into the tomb and touched the body of Elisha who was buried there, the dead man immediately came to life. (2 Kings 13:21.)

Never forget that we are kept by the power of God as we maintain our faith in God. That protection and that power will never leave the believer in Christ. It is only when we let the walls of protection down through sin and unbelief that we lose that power.

As we continue to walk in true faith and belief before God, we are kept protected through that faith. The healing virtue of the Holy Spirit will always flow through us until that last day when we see Him face-to-face. Praise God!

Compiled by Bill Subritzky and produced by Dove Ministries

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