The Word For The Weak

— Weekly Newsletter —
By R. C. Theophilus
"For when I am weak, then I am strong."
2 Corinthians 12:7-10

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THE WEEK OF: 22-28 October — In The Year of Christ Jesus Our King 2023 A.D.

THE WORD IS: "JAMES"

SAYING THESE THINGS:

Last night, the Lord Holy Spirit gave me the word "JAMES" for this week's Word For The Weak.

Within a minute of my hearing that Word, a severe tightness and dull pain began spreading from the center of my chest upward to my neck, downward to my lower sternum, and outward to both shoulders. The sensation became so severe that I thought I might be experiencing a coronary event.

But upon inquiring of the Lord, He explained that the pain was not physiological in nature, but caused by spiritual warfare, with my inner spirit-man experiencing a collateral effect.

Essentially, in the process of my receiving the Word, the Lord was placing me in a position of intercession for those who are weak, with the result of my Breastplate of Righteousness being pushed on by evil forces**.

So I watched some TV for a while, ignoring the pain until it de-resonated and was no more.

Let us now explore the Word of James, and see if we can determine in what way this Word will benefit we who are The Weak.

According to Wikipedia:

James the Great was one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus. According to the New Testament, he was the second of the apostles to die (after Judas Iscariot), and the first to be martyred. Saint James is the patron saint of Spain and, according to tradition, his remains are held in Santiago de Compostela in Galicia. He is also known as James, son of Zebedee, Saint James the Great, Saint James the Greater, Saint James the Elder, or Saint Jacob (Aramaic בו זבדי, [citation needed] Arabic בו זבדי, [citation needed] Yaʿaqōb, Latin Iacobus Maior, Greek Ἰάκωβος τοῦ Ζεβεδαίου Ιάκōbos tû Zebedaíou; [citation needed] died AD 44).

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_the_Great)

James the Less (Greek: Ἰάκωβος ὁ μικρός Iakōbos ho mikros) is a figure of early Christianity, one of the Twelve chosen by Jesus. He is also called "the Minor", "the Little", "the Lesser", or "the Younger", according to translation. He is not to be confused with James the Great (also called "James the Elder"). He is identified by some as James, son of Alphaeus and as James, brother of Jesus, thought of by Jerome and others as really the cousin of Jesus. James the Less has traditionally been commemorated along with St. Philip in the Western Christian calendars.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_the_Less)

According to Scripture:

1 And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. 2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; 3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Cananite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him.

(Matthew 10:1-4 NKJV)

Psalms 119:105 (NKJV) says that "Your word is a lamp to my feet, And a light to my path."

Here are some key verses to help guide our journey.

The Book of James Chapter 1 Verses 2 Through 8

2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, **3** knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. **4** But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. **5** If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. **6** But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. **7** For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; **8** he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Over the years I have heard it stated that the original Hebrew name for James can also be translated as Jacob in the English language.

The Book of Exodus Chapter 3 Verse 15

15 Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of **Jacob**, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.'

The Book of Acts Chapter 7 Verses 30-32

30 "And when forty years had passed, an Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire in a bush, in the wilderness of Mount Sinai. **31** When Moses saw it, he marveled at the sight; and as he drew near to observe, the voice of the Lord came to him, **32** saying, I am the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of **Jacob**.' And Moses trembled and dared not look.

After looking at these texts, I could see a form of the Godhead being represented in the names and persons, with the life of Abraham revealing the love of Father God, the life of Isaac revealing the sacrifice of the Son of God, and the life of **Jacob** revealing the work of the Holy Spirit of God.

One thing that became clear to me in studying this Word of James, is that two of the Twelve Apostles are named James. James the Elder, who is the half-brother of Jesus, and who wrote the Book of James, and James the Younger, the son of Alphaeus. This is the first time that I have realized this truth.

So now, a question arises; why did Jesus choose two of His disciples/apostles who shared the same name to become part of the foundation of His Church?

I close with this confession.

One of my favorite movie series is James Bond. And I have often wondered if Ian Fleming was inspired by the opening of the Book of James in verse 1:1 for the name of the lead character in his literary work —

"James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, ..."

P. S. ** But this was not the first time I experienced this strange phenomena. See my testimonial Letter 230a (www.letterstodan.com) for more details.

May Jesus grant us His Light to Know, Live, and Love His Word.

Amen.