

Security In Adversity

“Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God.”

John 13:3 (KJV)

The last night before His betrayal and Passion is the account of Jesus washing His disciples' feet. In verse three, John records Jesus had three things established in His heart:

1. He knew the Father had **given** all things into His hands. *His victory was already a reality to His Father.*
2. He knew He came **from** God. *His identity was not defined by the difficulty He faced.*
3. He knew He was to **return** to His Father. *He saw Himself as a victor having reached the other side of adversity.*

The importance of these statements reveals the security Jesus had that in spite of what He was to face, He was not moved away from the calling on His life. These statements also reveal an understanding that His **relationship**, His **submission** to the Father, and the **authority** in which He functioned were *interrelated* and *interdependent*.

They were critical and significant truths relating to His ability to face the magnitude of His adversity that lay before Him and overcome it. The ability to resist adversity is not found in what kind of information we have about God or how able we are to articulate promises we are familiar with from the Scripture. We know adversity is going to come. Our ability to function in the face of it does not depend upon knowledge **"about"** God, but knowledge that comes from within the context of fellowship **"with"** God.

Perhaps you will consider the truth that though Jesus was still God as He lived on this earth, I believe the Scripture teaches that He walked as a man and did not function as the Sovereign God that He was (Philippians 2:1-10). The importance of this truth is, it shows us as Jesus walked we can walk and that we are **expected** to walk **like** Jesus did (John 14:12).

The same Holy Spirit that empowered Jesus to face adversity and overcome its claims on His life rests on every believer. His plan is for us to function in that same "live-in-the-spirit" kind of living. This kind of life does not exempt us from adversity, conversely, it empowers us to look at situations as nothing more than an obstacle, a mountain, that has to be removed by the power of Jesus living in us (Mark 11:22-24).

So **when** adversity comes, don't run from it in fear, but face it with a security that originates from within your fellowship with the Father. He intends for you to **face** it, **deal** with it, and **dispense** with it in the wisdom and power of the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 2:14).