



Faith that brings perseverance!

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Dear Friends:

Greetings! I pray the richest blessings over you today in God's mighty name! Today we see change all around us, and so many precious people are experiencing transition. Yet as believers, we are rooted and grounded in His magnificent love (see Eph. 3:17). As a result of being established in His love, we have a peace that passes all natural understanding; we have courage, the depth of which is confidence in the Lord. We cannot trust in our own reasoning. Instead, today we declare that we will, "Trust in the LORD with all [our] heart, and lean not on [our] own understanding; in all [our] ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct [our] paths" (Prov. 3:5-6).

Through Him, peace is established deep within us, causing us to know beyond a shadow of a doubt that He will lead us and guide us. He will lead us down our paths! This place of trust is beyond the natural ability of a person. It comes only through a relationship with the Lord, who will lead us and bring to pass all that He has purposed for us. As we are directed by Him, we can also be assured that He is making every path straight. This work of the Lord is unseen to us, as He is in our days ahead of us, dealing with adversaries of opposition and delays that would hinder us from the open doors and gates that He has pre-ordained for us.

Truly, the Lord will be strong on our behalf! This knowledge enables a courage deep within and causes us to be so anchored in His love that our hearts and minds are steadfast. Thus, we will reach a place of focus that comes from being led by the Lord.

Our perseverance must be innate and sustained by faith, not a fruit of self-determination. Holy perseverance is God-empowered boldness or courage that enables us, deep within to persevere. One way we can define perseverance is simply "to stay the course." This is a powerful blessing from the Lord that enables us to believe the impossible is possible. It is a work of the Holy Spirit within that enables us to have strength to stay the course, regardless of present circumstances or situations. This is what the prophet Isaiah wrote about:

Fear not [there is nothing to fear], for I am with you; do not look around you in terror and be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen and harden you to difficulties, yes, I will help you; yes, and I will hold you up and retain you with My [victorious] right hand of rightness and justice.

—Isaiah 41:10 AMP

In this passage, the Lord promises to be with us, to strengthen us, to keep us, and to hold us in a place of victory. The Hebrew meaning of the word strengthen is "to be strong, alert, courageous, brave, stout, bold, solid, hard." Here's a more in-depth look:

a) to be strong, brave, bold

b) to strengthen, secure (for oneself), harden (heart), make firm, make obstinate, assure

c) to be determined, to make oneself alert, strengthen oneself, confirm oneself, persist in, and prove superior to

d) to exhibit strength, be strong, feel strong

Here's the incredible promise: You can stay the course because of God's enabling strength for you and in you! I pray the precious Holy Spirit will release an even greater strengthening deep within so that you will stand firm for the promises of the Lord for your life and your family. As you lean into the Lord, I pray that you will go from strength to strength with deep courage to believe for the impossible to be possible.