

God is Able

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Introduction: Men throughout time have created gods that have no power and then place their lives in their hands.

A. The idols of the Bible were powerless. **(Psa 135:15-18)**

1. That is what these men wanted. Why? Because they could live as they wished!
2. The consequences of these desires caused men to become unable to reason.

There was much bitter fruit to eat. **(Rom 1:20-21,28)**

B. It is possible to take the name of the true God and make Him into another god.

(2 Cor 11:4)

1. This approach yields the same result as idolatry. **(2 Tim 3:4-5)**
2. What is your God like?

“Faith reposes on the character of God, and if we believe that God is perfect, we must conclude that his ways are perfect also.”

C. When we begin to know and trust the true God we cannot imagine the power that He would bring into our lives. **(Eph 3:20-21)**

1. The key is not God but our faith. God will always be faithful. **(Mt 21:21-22)**
2. Notice the theme in the verses we will study today. God is described as faithful, able and just. Why? So that we might believe, obey and be blessed.
3. When we see like this we will give emphasis to building our faith. What does our God tell us He is able to do?

I. To accomplish His will without the proud

A. The Jews thought they had God in a fix. **(Mt 3:8-9)**

1. If they were Children of Abraham then how could God destroy them?
2. This proud attitude caused them to see God’s goodness and then think that they deserved it! **(Rom 2:4-5)**

B. God will not help the proud! **(1 Pt 5:5-6)**

“God will inevitably appear to disappoint the man who is attempting to use him as a convenience, a prop, or a comfort for his own plans. God has never been known to disappoint the man who is sincerely wanting to cooperate with his own purposes.”

1. We need to be careful not to let our experience as “members of the church” cause us to be blind to our sins and make us think that God serves us.
2. How can men be leaders and then justify obvious wrongs? **(Jn 18:28)**
3. Do you see how much you need God? Do not fight Him!

II. To deliver us from temptation that overwhelms

A. We need to see the real danger we face from Satan. **(Lk 22:31)**

1. The power of Satan is found in temptation that leads to sin. **(Mt 6:13)**
2. The overconfident think they have no need. Here is where Satan will always have his way. How do you think?

B. God will provide for those who humbly seek help. **(Heb 2:17-18)**

1. God’s very nature is emphasized in this promise. **(1 Cor 10:12-13)**
2. If we do not know the struggle and threat of sin then we may not be trying at all.

III. To forgive us when we repent and turn to Him

- A. We all should know the pain of shame and the joy of forgiveness. **(Psa 51:7-12)**
 - 1. We face a real danger in becoming hardened to sin and thus becoming blind.
 - 2. We also face a danger in being overwhelmed by guilt.
- B. God is faithful to forgive us!
 - 1. We are baptized into Christ with faith in His operation. **(Col 2:11-13)**
 - 2. We repent and confess our sins for forgiveness of a God who is faithful. **(1 Jn 1:7-9)**
 - 3. Have you ever doubted the forgiveness of a man? (Ex. Joseph's brothers)
 - 4. We need the assurance that God gives us in His word. HE is able!

IV. To provide and care for us each day

- A. How many of us realize how fragile we are?
 - 1. Jesus wants us to know about the power and ability of our God. **(Mt 10:29-31)**
 - 2. We should neither arrogantly proceed as if nothing bad will happen nor be so worrisome that we fail to see God's care. **(Mt 6:33-34)**
- B. The ultimate care that God has for us is our spiritual welfare. **(Jude 24-25)**
 - 1. We need to know that the battle will be won if we hold on to God's provisions. **(Jn 10:29-23)**
 - 2. We must let His word work in our hearts if we are to find these blessings. **(Jn 8:31-32)**
 - 3. Do you have a confidence in the daily care of God?

V. To increase our faith and make us stronger

- A. Do you remember what it was like when you first became a Christian?
 - 1. You and others may have thought that you might not make it!
 - 2. Please remember this warning to those who see as men do. **(Rom 14:4)**
 - 3. Hopefully we will be one of the tools God uses to help others. **(Rom 15:1)**
- B. God works through His word to provide powerful blessings! **(Acts 20:32)**
 - 1. We each should go through a process from being weak and vulnerable to being strong and knowledgeable. **(Rom 16:25-27)**
 - 2. How does this happen? It happens day by day.
- C. The test of this growth will be seen in action. **(2 Cor 9:8)**
 - 1. Please notice the knowledge of the grace of God that motivates.
 - 2. The one who has grown will not have to be begged to do God's work.

VI. To bring us to an eternal place with Him

- A. We are blessed when we see the temporary nature of this life and trust in God.
 - 1. Jesus showed us the only way to have something that will last. **(Mt 6:19-21)**
 - 2. Paul had no regrets for the sacrifices made for Christ. **(2 Tim 1:12)**
- B. We ultimately are looking to be raised from the dead to be with Christ.
 - 1. What is our God able to do? **(Phil 3:21)**
 - 2. We cannot know how to live until we know how to die.

Conclusion: What is your God able to do?

- A. We show our faith by a diligent application of His word. **(Jude 20-21)**
- B. There is a great peace and purpose when we serve a living God by faith! **(Phil 4:6-7)**