

WEAKNESS THROUGH STRENGTH

II CORINTHIANS 12:7

7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for **my strength is made perfect in weakness.** Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

PERFECT STRENGTH BY PERFECT WEAKNESS_ JEFF IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY_ 61-1119
57 **And make a complete surrender.** We cannot use one ability. We've got to make a complete surrender. And to come to God, you've got to surrender to Him both soul, body, and spirit.

Everything that you are has to be surrendered to God in order that He can work His will in you and in me. Now, that's hard; I know; 'cause we're always wanting to put our part in, something that we know, you know, that we want to do it.

We say, "Well, I--I just know it should be done this way. " **But as long as you're doing it that way it's going to be wrong, and God will never use that effort.**

II CORINTHIANS 12:9

9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will

I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

II CORINTHIANS 12:10

10 Therefore I take ***PLEASURE** in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

PLEASURE: eudokeo {yoo-dok-eh'-o} be well pleased, be (one's) good pleasure, it seems good to one, to do willingly; to be ready to, to prefer, choose rather

HEBREWS 11:32

32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

34 Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, **out of weakness were made strong**, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

JUDGES 6:11

11 And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites.

12 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, **thou mighty man of valour.**

13 And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt? but now the LORD hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.

14 And the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?

15 **And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house.**

16 And the LORD said unto him, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man.

JUDGES 6:25

25 And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that is by it:

26 And build an altar unto the LORD thy God upon the top of this rock, in the ordered place, and take the second bullock, and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the grove which thou shalt cut down.

27 Then Gideon took ten men of his servants, and did as the LORD had said unto him: and so it was, **because he feared his father's household**, and the men of the city, that he could not do it by day, that he did it by night.

JUDGES 7:2

2 And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest

Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, **Mine own hand hath saved me.**

3 Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. **And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.**

4 And the LORD said unto Gideon, **The people are yet too many;** bring them down unto the water, and I will try them for thee there:

and it shall be, that of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.

5 So he brought down the people unto the water: and the LORD said unto Gideon, Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink.

6 And the number of them that lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, were **three hundred men:** but all the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water.

THE. PERGAMEAN. CHURCH. AGE_ JEFF. IN ROJC 229-285 WEDNESDAY_ 60-1207
36 Gideon chose his army one time by the ones that stooped and bowed down and lapped the water, or the ones that stood up and got the water. You see? So the ones that fell, **they'd been-- been prostrating themselves before idols, and he knew they wasn't subjects to go.**

So the one who stood with their eye up watching all the time. That's the way we do: stand and pray. Now, I believe in kneeling and praying too; but, standing and praying, I think it just means something to us somehow.

JUDGES 7:7

7 And the LORD said unto Gideon, **By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you**, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand: and let all the other people go every man unto his place.

JUDGES 7:16

16 And he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man's hand, with **empty** pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers.

17 And he said unto them, Look on me, and do likewise: and, behold, when I come to the outside of the camp, it shall be that, as I do, so shall ye do.

18 When I blow with a trumpet, I and all that are with me, then blow ye the trumpets also on every side of all the camp, and say, The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.

19 So Gideon, and the hundred men that were with him, came unto the outside of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch; and they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers that were in their hands.

20 And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow withal: and they cried, The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.

21 And they stood every man in his place round about the camp: and all the host ran, and cried, and fled.

22 And the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the LORD set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host: and the host fled to Bethshittah in Zererath, and to the border of Abelmeholah, unto Tabbath.

JUDGES 8:27

27 And Gideon made an ephod thereof, and put it in his city, even in Ophrah: and all Israel went thither a whoring after it: which thing became a snare unto Gideon, and to his house.

28 Thus was Midian subdued before the children of Israel, so that they lifted up their heads no more. And the country was in quietness forty years in the days of Gideon.

HEBREWS 11:32

32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of **Barak**, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

JUDGES 4:4

4 And Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, she judged Israel at that time.

5 And she dwelt under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in mount Ephraim: and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment.

6 And she sent and called Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedeshnaphtali, and said unto him, Hath not the LORD God of Israel commanded, saying, Go and draw toward mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun?

7 And **I will draw unto thee to the river Kishon Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army**, with his chariots and his multitude; and I will deliver him into thine hand.

8 And Barak said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go.

9 And she said, I will surely go with thee: notwithstanding the journey that thou takest **shall not be for thine honour**; for the

LORD shall sell Sisera {see-ser-aw'} **into the hand of a woman.** And Deborah arose, and went with Barak to Kedesh.

10 And Barak called Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh; and he went up with ten thousand men at his feet: and Deborah went up with him.

JUDGES 4:13

13 And Sisera {**see-ser-aw'**} gathered together all his chariots, even **nine hundred chariots of iron**, and all the people that were with him, from Harosheth of the Gentiles unto the river of Kishon.

14 And Deborah said unto Barak, Up; for this is the day in which the LORD hath delivered Sisera into thine hand: is not the LORD gone out before thee? So Barak went down from mount Tabor, and ten thousand men after him.

15 **And the LORD discomfited Sisera**, and all his chariots, and all his host, with the edge of the sword before Barak; so that Sisera lighted down off his chariot, and fled away on his feet.

16 But Barak pursued after the chariots, and after the host, unto Harosheth of the Gentiles: and all the host of Sisera e-ser-aw'} fell upon the edge of the sword; and there was not a man left.

17 Howbeit Sisera fled away on his feet to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite: for there was peace between Jabin the king of Hazor and the house of Heber the Kenite.

18 And Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said unto him, Turn in, my lord, turn in to me; fear not. And when he had turned in unto her into the tent, she covered him with a mantle.

19 And he said unto her, Give me, I pray thee, a little water to drink; for I am thirsty. And she opened a bottle of milk, and gave him drink, and covered him.

20 Again he said unto her, Stand in the door of the tent, and it shall be, when any man doth come and enquire of thee, and say, Is there any man here? that thou shalt say, No.

21 Then Jael Heber's wife took a nail of the tent, and took an hammer in her hand, and went softly unto him, and smote the nail into his temples, and fastened it into the ground: for he was fast asleep and weary. So he died.

22 And, behold, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him, and said unto him, Come, and I will shew thee the man whom thou seekest. And when he came into her tent, behold, Sisera lay dead, and the nail was in his temples.

23 So God subdued on that day Jabin the king of Canaan before the children of Israel.

24 And the hand of the children of Israel prospered, and prevailed against Jabin the king of Canaan, until they had destroyed Jabin king of Canaan.

HEBREWS 11:32

32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of **Samson**, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

FAITH. COMETH. BY. HEARING_ CHICAGO. IL SATURDAY_ 54-0320

E-54. **I can imagine seeing little Samson out there, with his seven little locks hanging down.** Oh, some people picture him like he had door--shoulders like the doors back there, great big brute of a man.

That wouldn't be mystery to see that man kill a lion, or slay a thousand Philistines with a jawbone of a mule. There wouldn't be no mystery to see him take the city gates and walk away with

it; a man that size. **But Samson was a little, bitty, curly-headed shrimp, just about like that. Little, bitty fellow.**

But he was just a little, bitty fellow. We'd call him a little shrimp today, little, sissy boy, seven little mommy's--little golden locks hanging down on his head, walk around, little, sissy fellow.

ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT_ JEFF IN V-26 N-10 SUNDAY_ 54-1219E

44 Look at Samson. When he found. . . The lion run out to kill him, and he slew the lion when the power of God come upon him, slew him with his bare hand, just probably pulled his jaws apart.

A little, bitty, curly-headed shrimp, about that high, little, bitty, old fellow, scrawny looking on the street, seven little locks hanging around his head like a little sissy, and he was no more than a little sissy until the Spirit of God come upon him.

Now, it wouldn't be hard to believe that a great big giant could slay a lion with his hands. I believe he could do it. But what's the funny thing was, this little bitty fellow done it. But the Spirit of the Lord come upon him, and he slew the lion, threw it over to one side.

And bees built their hive in there. And Samson. . . The sweetest honey he ever eat come out of that carcass of that killed lion. Is that right? Why? He overcome it with the power of God.

THE. UNCERTAIN. SOUND_ JEFF. IN V-26 N-19 SUNDAY_ 55-0731

125 Samson, when he walked out there, the lion come towards him. Oh, my, the lion was going to get him, **a little, curly-headed shrimp, about like that, seven little, sissy locks hanging from his shoulders.**

And he was a weakling; he was a midget; he was a dwarf, like every man is without God. Yes. But all at once, when

the lion got ready to get him, the hidden power come out. The Holy Spirit come on him, and he grabbed the lion and slew it, like it was a lamb.

That's where it is. The Christian don't fight back. The Christian don't fuss about it. The Christian sets still. And that hidden power, the blessing of the Holy Ghost goes to work for him, brings it out. Hallelujah.

HEBREWS 11:32

32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of **Jephthae**; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

JUDGES 11:1

1 Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valour, and he was the son of an harlot: and Gilead begat Jephthah.

Jephthah was born into an influential and wealthy family. However, he was illegitimate. Unwilling to share the family's wealth, his half-brothers forced him into exile.

JUDGES 11:2

2 And Gilead's wife bare him sons; and his wife's sons grew up, and they thrust out Jephthah, and said unto him, Thou shalt not inherit in our father's house; for thou art the son of a strange woman.

3 Then Jephthah fled from his brethren, and dwelt in the land of Tob: and there were gathered vain men to Jephthah, and went out with him.

4 And it came to pass in process of time, that the children of Ammon made war against Israel.

5 And it was so, that when the children of Ammon made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to fetch Jephthah out of the land of Tob:

6 And they said unto Jephthah, Come, and be our captain, that we may fight with the children of Ammon.

7 And Jephthah said unto the elders of Gilead, Did not ye hate me, and expel me out of my father's house? and why are ye come unto me now when ye are in distress?

8 And the elders of Gilead said unto Jephthah, Therefore we turn again to thee now, that thou mayest go with us, and fight against the children of Ammon, and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.