IS YOUR GOD ABLE ?

"Oh Daniel, is your GOD, whom ye serve, ABLE to deliver you out of the mouth of the LIONS!"

This is the question for each one of us today to consider- 'Is our God ABLE' to save us "because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"

King Darius, the foolish king who passed the law to force all to worship himself, didn't realize that his foolish pride would lead to having the best man in his court thrown to the lions-

"And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?" Dan.6.20

What was Daniel's answer? "My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt." Dan.6.22

DANIEL'S GOD IS ABLE TO DELIVER!

Our question- "IS ***OUR*** GOD ABLE" is so pertinent to each one of us and it is a question that each one of us has to decide for himself. God has given much evidence for us to look at and we can hear the testimony of others who have experienced God's faithfulness.

Down in our hearts we each know that we cannot deliver *ourselves* from the lions of sin and death– our good intentions and resolutions are "As ropes of sand". It is a fact that even 'self improvement' teachers with their 'pick yourself up by your own bootstraps' theories, are unable to bring the desired improvement into their own lives and often have more troubles than their students! "they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch." Matt.15.14

In this booklet we are going to look at what God tells us He is ABLE to do for each one of us as well as the way to receive that deliverance, and listen to testimony from those who have experienced His faithfulness and hear them affirm- Our God IS Able!

WOLVES INTO SHEEP

Suppose a wolf should one day, after watching peaceful sheep, decide that this is how an animal should live. So he goes down to the pasture and pulling a wooly sweater over his shaggy body, he climbs over the fence and begins to try to eat grass with the flock.

He tries as hard as he can, but the grass sticks in his teeth and he gets restless lying quietly in the sun.

At night as he hears other wolves howling, he twitches and it is so hard for him to sleep peacefully like the rest of the flock.

He struggles to push down his aggressiveness but every time a fat lamb grazes close to him, he catches himself drooling.

One day a pack of his old buddies race past and before he knows it, he leaps the fence and races to join them. Later he returns to the flock, head down and dejected and so sorry to have failed in his resolve.

As he is lying under a bush, so dejected at his failure and wishing to die, he hears a loving voice, and lifting his shaggy head with the tatters of the wooly sweater dangling around his neck, and gazes into the face of the lovely Creator.

"Wolf," he says kindly, "If you truly want to be one of my sheep, you must be born again, recreated as a sheep, for "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil." Jer.13.23

The Wolf approaches the Creator, head down and repentant, "I can do nothing to change myself, I know, I have tried, and I get nowhere. Please, Dear Creator, recreate me as one of your sheep."

When the wolf was 'recreated' he found a wonderful joy in being a sheep and doing sheep things. The grass was delicious, he enjoyed the company of the other sheep and no longer desired any part of his old ways.

John.3.3 …"Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

The Bible Answers Your Questions

What's the big deal about 'sin' anyway? Aren't most people basically good?

Matt.19.17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God.

Gen.6.5 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Job.14.4 Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.

All I really need to do is follow my conscience and my heart will guide me, right?

Jer.17.9
The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?
Pro.14.12
There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

God expects us to 'use our own heads' and be smart, right?

Matt.4.4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Psa.119.9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

Psa.119.11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee

Well, if that is the case, how can I be saved?

Matt.19.26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

Matt.1.21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: {Savior} for he shall save his people from their sins.
Isa.45.22 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

But I have done wrong things and what is worse, a lot of the time, I don't even feel like obeying God. It seems unreal to me.

1 Cor.1.23
But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

1 Cor. 1.18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

1 Cor 2.14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

That's just it, it doesn't make sense to me– what can I do?

Romans 12.2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

But that is impossible for me-

Hebrews 10.16,17 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

Ezekial 36:25-27 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.
A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.
And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

How do I get this new heart?

Matt. 7.7,8 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Matt. 21.22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

Mark 11.24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

If it is so easy, how come everybody isn't saved from sin?

Heb. 11.6

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

James 1.5-7
If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

OK, and where do I get this faith?

Romans 12.3
...God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Mark 9.24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

"If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed," said Jesus, "ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove." Tho the grain of mustard seed is so small, it contains that same mysterious life principle which produces growth in the loftiest tree. When the mustard seed is cast into the ground, the tiny germ lays hold of every element that God has provided for its nutriment, and it speedily develops a sturdy growth. If you have faith like this, you will lay hold upon God's word, and upon all the helpful agencies He has appointed. Thus your faith will strengthen and will bring to your aid the power of heaven. The obstacles that are piled by Satan across your path, tho apparently as insurmountable as the eternal hills, shall disappear before the demand of faith. "Nothing shall be impossible unto you." ST.1904

Is there anything that could get stop me from receiving what God wants to give me?

1 John 2.15-17
Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

Psalms 66.18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

2 Thess. 2.10-12 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they *received not the love of the truth,* that they might be saved.
And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had *pleasure in unrighteousness*.

But I feel so rebellious sometimes– what can I do?

God wishes us to have the mastery over ourselves. But He cannot help us without our consent and co-operation. The divine Spirit works through the powers and faculties given to man. Of ourselves, we are not able to bring the purposes and desires and inclinations into harmony with the will of God; but if we are "willing to be made willing," the Saviour will accomplish this for us, "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing

that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." 2 Corinthians 10:5. AA.482

I am "willing to be made willing!" Tell me more-

Matt 9.28,29
...Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, Lord. ...According to your faith be it unto you.

There is no limit with God to save and to set us free from sin and recreate us. If we are willing to have sin removed from us– even if we can't see how we can give up our darling sins, if we ask God to take from us the love for sin and put enmity in our hearts for it, we will be freed from its power!
(Genesis 3.15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.)

Ephesians 3.17-21
That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,
May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.
Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,
Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Romans 8.37-39
Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.
For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

So what is the secret of having a living relationship with God?

2 Peter 1.4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature,

Luke.1.74,75
That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.
1 Samuel 17.45,46
Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.
This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; ... ***that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.***

Mark 9.23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, ***all things are possible to him that believeth.***

THERE IS NO GIANT OF SIN OR TROUBLE IN YOUR LIFE THAT CAN STAND AGAINST THE POWER OF GOD CLAIMED BY FAITH IN THE BLOOD OF CHRIST!

THE GREAT SECRET OF HOW TO DO IT

1. **HOW DO I STRETCH FORTH THE WITHERED HAND?**
Mark 3:5: "... Stretch forth thine hand ...."
2. **HOW DO I BECOME CLEAN?**
Mark 1:41: "... Be thou clean."
3. **HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO BE PERFECT?**
Matt. 5:48: "Be ye therefore perfect...."
4. **HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO KEEP FROM SINNING?**
John 8:11: "... Go and sin no more...."
5. **HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO GET OFF MY SICK BED?**
Matt. 9:6: "... Arise, take up thy bed ...."
6. **HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO HAVE FAITH IN GOD IF I CAN'T SEE HIM?**
Mark 11:22: "... Have faith in God."
7. **HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE?**
Mark 5:36: "... Only believe."

You make the CHOICE; God gives the POWER!

"As the will of man co-operates with the will of God, it becomes omnipotent. Whatever is to be done at His command may be accomplished in His strength. ***All His biddings are enablings."*** COL.333

If Our God– is not able, then we are doomed to perish miserably, and eternally in outer darkness-
But PRAISE HIS NAME!-
"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Heb.7.25

OUR GOD IS ABLE !