

The Holey Glove

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The Lord spoke to me once and said, "You're nothing but a holey glove, ragged, torn, dirty, and empty." When I received this word, I realized what God was saying to me. He was illustrating His own Word in a different way: "In my flesh dwelleth no good thing."¹ "the flesh profiteth nothing."² "...have no confidence in the flesh."³ "...that no flesh should glory in His presence."⁴ Jesus said "WITHOUT ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING!"⁵ Praise God, our spirits are born again in the image of God. Praise God, on the inside we are now made good with the goodness of God.⁶ But even though we are now forgiven, cleansed, and made new on the INSIDE, we must realize that "we have this TREASURE (on the inside) in an EARTHEN VESSEL (on the outside)"⁷ We still have the FLESH to contend with. HOW WRETCHED WE ARE IN OURSELVES, but O HOW WONDERFUL WE ARE IN CHRIST. The Bible says, "...the SPIRIT is willing, but the FLESH is weak."⁸ WHAT A WRECK I AM WHEN I YIELD TO THE FLESH, but O WHAT A BLESSING I CAN BE WHEN I YIELD TO THE SPIRIT. The spirit wars against the flesh and the flesh wars against the spirit.⁹ The Christian must come to a vital realization that he can never again depend on his flesh. His flesh is a filthy rag, a holey glove that is soiled and tattered. The believer must understand that only DAILY DEPENDENCE ON CHRIST THROUGH DAILY PRAYER AND BIBLE READING can keep him from yielding to the flesh. The believer can no longer live by his wits or by the seat of his pants. He must live out of the MIND OF CHRIST. The disciple must learn that he cannot live out of the circumstances of life. He must live out of the Father. Like Jesus said, the disciple must know that "WITHOUT ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING." WITHOUT ME, YOU ARE A ZERO!

The good news, however, is that we don't have to live in the arena of ZERO. We can learn to live like John the Baptist - "He must increase, I must decrease."¹⁰ We can live like Jesus - "not my will, but thine be done."¹¹ We can live like Paul - "Walk in the spirit and ye shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh."¹² HOW? HOW? As we yield ourselves to God each day in prayer and Bible meditation, we yield ourselves to the HAND OF GOD. We receive the touch of the Master's hand. Suddenly, as we lose ourselves in fellowship with Him, we sense the Master's hand slipping into our tattered glove. We experience the ecstasy of our HOLEY GLOVE becoming His HOLY HAND. Sweet surrender becomes sweet release, as His fullness fills our emptiness. Now we are useful in our Master's service. We are His extended hand towards hurting humanity. He touches through us. He loves through us. He heals through us. He embraces through us. The hand of God in our holey glove becomes His holy hand to humanity!

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

1. Rom 1:18
2. John 6:63
3. Phil 3:3
4. I Cor 1:29
5. John 15:5
6. II Cor 5:21
7. Luke 6:45
8. II Cor 4:7
9. Gal 5:17
10. John 3:30
11. Luke 22:42
12. Gal 5:16