

Supernatural Power

Exposing Enemies Within the Church: A 7-Session Bible Study Series Session 4: Antinomianism ~ Lawlessness isn't a biblical idea.

Galatians 5:16-18 ~ ^{5:16} I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

¹⁷ For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Insight: The one who is led by the Spirit doesn't need to be under the law, because, being led by the Spirit, he or she is not fulfilling "the lust of the flesh" but is obeying God.

Hebrews 11:39-12:3 ~ ^{11:39} And all these [Old Testament believers], having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, ⁴⁰ God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. ^{12:1} Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. **Insight:** Jesus is the "author and finisher" — the pioneer and perfecter — of the Christian faith, setting the pace for all of His followers. **Question:** In the above passage, what kinds of things do believers need to do to cooperate with God so that they take full advantage of the super-natural power Christ makes possible and the Holy Spirit delivers?

Hebrews 2:14-18 ~ ^{2:14} Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. ¹⁶ For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

¹⁷ Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted. **Question:** Why was it necessary for Jesus to die to enable His followers to live lives that please God, including keeping God's commandments?

Hebrews 4:14-16 ~ ^{4:14} Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. **For discussion:** Describe the connections between having Jesus as our High Priest, "holding fast our confession," and approaching Him boldly for help.

John 14:15-17 ~ ^{14:15} If you love Me, keep My commandments. ¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. **Insight:** Jesus never said, if you love Me, obey my commands — but you're on your own! Instead, what He commands us He enables us to do, and in this instance, He sends the most effective help possible — the Holy Spirit, who resides in us.

1 Corinthians 10:12-13 ~ ^{10:12} Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. **Insight:** Not being under the law doesn't mean we will be struggle-free in resisting temptation, but it does mean that, with God's help, we can resist it.