

HOW TO DEFEAT A LION IN A PIT ON A SNOWY DAY

2Sa 23:20 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man, of Kabzeel, who had done many acts, he slew two lionlike men of Moab: he went down also and slew a lion in the midst of a pit in time of snow:

2 Samuel records the heroic deeds of David's mighty men. One of these mighty men was Benaiah. He did many mighty acts but two are recorded specifically for us. He defeated two lion-like men and more impressively he killed an actual lion in a pit on a snowy day. Apparently, Benaiah found himself in a blizzard and sought for protection in a pit/cave in the ground. He found more than he bargained for! He found a lion had the same idea before him! If he was to be able to use this pit he would have to fight the lion for it!

Everything recorded in the Old Testament was written down for our learning. Names are significant in the Bible and especially in the Old Testament. Christians today can learn how to be victorious against our enemy by looking at Benaiah. Benaiah faced two types of enemies- lion-like men and the lion. In the Bible the lion is representative of either Jesus or Satan.

Rev 5:5 But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."

1Pe 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

A look at context will determine which one. Here this lion opposed the servant of the Lord, so it represented Satan. As Christians we face the same two enemies- the lion and lion-like people. Our enemies are Satan and people that are like him and are being used by him! Satan likes to use people. They are wolves in sheep's clothing. Benaiah defeated both and so can we. To see how we can do this we need to look at the meaning of the name of Benaiah. His name in Hebrew means "*built up by the Lord*". Benaiah was able to defeat lion-like men and the lion because he was built up by the Lord. Benaiah was the son of Jehoida. Jehoida means, "*the Lord who knows*". Benaiah was built up by the Lord

who knows! Benaiah was from a town called Kabzeel. Kabzeel means, “a congregation”. In typology we see Benaiah represents a member of the body of Christ and who is being built up by his all knowing Lord. Not all members of the body of Christ walk in victory and do mighty things in God. Only the ones who are built up by the Lord who knows all can do mighty deeds and walk in victory. How can we be built up by the Lord who knows all and defeat our enemies?

1Co 14:4 *He who speaks in a tongue builds himself up, but he who prophesies builds up the church.*

Jud 1:20 *But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,*

We see here in the New Testament that God has given us a gift by which we can be built up by Him. He gave us grace prayer. Grace prayer is prayer given by God for us to pray. When we are baptized in the Holy Spirit we are given a supernatural prayer language in a language that we do not know or have not learned. This language is utterances given by the Holy Spirit. [Acts 2:4] This is also righteous prayer. When you pray in the Spirit you pray according to the perfect will of God.

Rom 8:26 *And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in [articulate] words.*

Rom 8:27 *And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.*

The Holy Spirit has been sent to help us. He is called the Helper. He helps us against our weakness. In this verse we see our major weakness when it comes to prayer. It is the fact that we do not **know** what we need to know! Grace prayer/righteous prayer was given by your all knowing God so that you could pray out His will and find victory against your enemies. You can only be victorious over the enemy and over those who he uses by being built up by your all knowing God! Most Christians who have been baptized in the Spirit

and speak in tongues do not benefit much by it because they do not give themselves enough to praying in the Spirit. Many just pray for a few seconds each week in tongues. This is not enough to pray out the mind and will of God for our life! We need to spend significant time each day praying in the Spirit and allow the Spirit to give us His prayers to pray that are in line with God and are full of the knowledge of our omniscient God! God know the plots, plans, and strategies of our enemies and he knows how to overcome them. He knows our future and we can pray it out before it comes!

Joh 16:13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

The Holy Spirit will from time to time reveal things in our future so that we can understand it. However, this verse finds its most common fulfillment in using our prayer language! When we pray in tongues, the Spirit will give us the utterance/prayer to pray. In this prayer he communicates to our spirit the knowledge of the future for us to pray out. We do not always understand this with our mind. It is being communicated to our spirit by the Holy Spirit and prayed to the Father.

If you are facing people who are opposing you wrongly you need to be built up by your all knowing God. If you are facing a snow storm of negative circumstances and have sought for refuge just to find things got worse and you are facing the lion himself, you need to be built up by your all knowing God! Being built up means to be strengthened. You are strengthened by your all knowing God when you pray consistently in tongues. You can find victory over lion-like men and the lion himself in a pit on a snowy day by being built up by your all knowing God. Don't just be a member of the body of Christ. Be one of Jesus' mighty men and do mighty exploits in His name!