**R789\_Rumination for Mar. 15, 2020 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **He is Able.** berita-bethel-ung.com

The **T**ext: *Wherefore* ***He is able*** *also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him.* Heb. 7:25

The **T**hots:

1. **Do you Believe that He is Able?** **Matt. 9:28**

*When He was come into the house, the blind men came to Him: and Jesus saith unto them,*

***Believe ye that I am able*** *to do this* [to give sight to them]*?*

1. The **C**ondition Needed, Faith! *Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto Him, Yea, Lord.* 9:28b
2. The **C**onsequence of their Faith – 9:29-30a

*Then touched He their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you. And their eyes were opened.*

1. **And indeed He is Able…**
2. **to Save All** who Go to God through Him. **Heb. 7:25a**

*Wherefore* ***He is able*** *also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by H[m…*

1. The **I**nvitation to all who will **R**eceive Him - *All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me.* Jn. 6:37a
2. His **I**nsurance: No one will be **R**ejected - *him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out* Jn. 6:37b
3. His **I**ntercession in always **R**epresenting them – *He ever liveth to make intercession for them.* Heb*.*7:25b

1. **to Safeguard All** who have been **S**ecured by Him. They would not be **A**bandoned! **II Tim. 1:12**
2. Though they may **S**uffer at times, they will never be **A**shamed.

*For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed:*

1. They can be **S**ure of Him and fully **A**ssured in Him –

*For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that* ***He is able*** *to keep*

*that which I have committed unto Him against that day.*

1. **to Sustain All** in their **W**eakness because He is their **S**ufficiency in **A**ll things. **II Cor. 9:8**
2. Paul **W**itnesses to **G**od’s **G**iven **G**race being all **S**ufficient – 9:8a

***God is******able*** *to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things,*

Cf. *He said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee*. II Cor. 12:9a

1. In his **W**eakness God’s Grace **S**trengthens: *His strength is made perfect in weakness.*
2. That he may abound in **W**orks to **S**erve God - *may abound to every good work:* II Cor. 9:8b
3. Thus Paul’s **W**illingness to **S**uffer that **G**od may be **G**lorified. II Cor. 12:9b

*Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

1. **to Supply All** - He *is* ***A****ble to do exceeding* ***A****bundantly* ***A****bove* ***A****ll that we* ***A****sk or think**…* **Eph. 3:20**
2. Because of the **I**ncomparable **P**erson of Christ in us – *now unto Him*. Cf. 3:17-19

*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;*

1. Because of the **I**ncomprehensible **P**otential of Christ beyond us.

*To know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.*

1. Because of the **I**nvincible **P**ower of Christ in us – *according to the power that worketh in us,*
2. **to Succour All** and **A**id them that are being tempted: **Heb. 2:18**

*For in that He Himself hath suffered being tempted, He is* ***able*** *to succour them that are tempted.*

1. Jesus had gone through the **S**ame **T**emptations and **T**rials as **A**ll of us.
2. He would therefore be **A**ble to **A**ssist us through the **S**ame having **S**uffered **S**uch before. Cf. Jude 24

 *Now unto Him that is* ***able*** *to keep you from* ***F****alling, and to present you* ***F****aultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,*

1. **to Subdue All** things unto Himself at the **C**ulmination of **A**ll things:
2. *Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body,*

*according to the working whereby He is* ***able*** *even to subdue all things unto Himself.* Phil. 3:21

1. *And when all things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself*

*be subject unto Him that put all things under him,* ***that God may be all in all****.* I Cor. 15:28

1. **And there will be None Able to Separate us from Him.**

*And being fully persuaded that, what He had promised,* ***He was able*** *also to perform.* Rom. 4:21

*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.* Rom. 8:39

Con*. Now unto Him that is* ***able to keep you from falling****, and to present you faultless*

 *before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,* *To the only wise God our Saviour,*

 *be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.* Jude 24

*Tis the grandest theme through the ages rung; ’Tis the grandest theme for a mortal tongue;*

*’Tis the grandest theme that the world e’er sung,* ***Our God is able*** *to deliver thee*

*He is able to deliver thee, He is able to deliver thee;*

 *Though by sin oppressed, go to Him for rest; Our God is able to deliver thee.* W. A. Ogden,

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK. R.789**

1. **“*God is Able*”.** This maxim would suggest there is nothing impossible with God as confirmed by this text: Matt.19:26 - *Jesus beheld them, and said unto them,*

*With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.*

Yet in the experiences of some of God’s notable heroes, God did not seem to be able to do what His servants expected; well, at least, initially. For instance, when Daniel and his two friends were thrown into the lions’ den for refusing to worship the golden image the king had set up (Dan. 3:14), they acclaimed that their God was able to deliver them from the fiery furnace that they were cast into, yet in the same breath they sort of believed that God might not save them after all.

They said to the king:

Dan. 3:17-18 –***If*** *it be so, our* ***God*** *whom we serve* ***is able to deliver us*** *from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But* ***if not****, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.*

Daniel’s acclamation suggested that in the end of it all, God might not be able to deliver them; though, if this really came about, he and his friends would still be faithful and loyal to God and would not deny their faith in Him! They were prepared to let His will be done!

Really! Was it possible that God was not able? The end result was Daniel and his friends were delivered and God was glorified. Thus, Daniel 3:28-29 -

*Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent His angel, and delivered His servants that trusted in Him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God. Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces… because* ***there is no other God that can deliver after this sort****.*

* God received the Greater Glory when He delivered them **through** the fiery furnace rather than **from** the fiery furnace!

Paul prayed the Lord three times to deliver him from *the thorn in his flesh* – whatever it could be. It was troubling him a lot – II Cor. 12:7-10. He wrote:

*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. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And He said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness**…for when I am weak, then am I strong.*

God allowed this thorn in Paul’s flesh and even permitted Satan to buffet him to make him suffer and for him to cry out to God thrice to deliver him from it. But God did not do so, giving the impression that He was not able to! However, God gave Him grace to bear it that he might learn the lesson of humility and trust in Him. In the end Paul learned to bear it *for when I am weak, then am I strong,* and thus, He went on to glorify God!

The world today is faced with another *thorn in the flesh*! - a pandemic of the coronavirus or COVID-19. Singapore Churches which have been hit hard by it are responding to the challenge to contain its spread. See <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2020/march-web-only/7-lessons-covid-19-coronavirus-churches-singapore-us-europe.html>. Many church groups and denominations are holding combined prayer sessions every day or at certain hours of the day to intercede God to intervene to contain the spread of this disease which is spreading wider and wider with each day. Congregations in churches have even decided not to gather and church leaders have come out with a list of precautions for their flock to take. **Is God able** to stop this from becoming an epidemic or is He permitting this for some reason or other for His people to respond to Him in some specific way? What do you think and what are you doing about it?

At times when the Lord appears to be Not Able, Remember He is ALWAYS ABLE! **REFLECT**

1. All governments are set up by God and…e*veryone must submit to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those that exist are instituted by God.* (Rom. 13:1, 2, HCSB). When a government that seems to be anti-God or anti-Christ or anti-Christian is set up, does that mean that God is has lost control of the affairs of this world, and not able to answer the prayers of His people for a good, honest and incorrupt government? **REFLECT.**

**Points To Ponder:** *It is not Possible that God is Not* ***A****ble. Remember when He* ***A****ppears*

 *Not* ***A****ble He is* ***A****bout to* ***A****ccomplish the Impossible!*