

"He Is Able..." Series #2

→ Last Week..... 1-He Is Able... TO SAVE (Our Country/Family/Soul)

Hebrews 7:25 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.

"From the Guttermost To the Uttermost!"

Billy Sunday's great sermon, where he talked about how God saved him **from the gutter-most** because he was a gutter-drunk when God saved him.

The emphasis is on the fact that Jesus saves completely, forever, all who put their faith in Him, because He is our High Priest forever.

2-He Is Able... TO SECURE

2 Timothy 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: 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.

To Keep - "To Secure a Thing"

GR. phylássō, foo-las'-so - probably from G5443 through the idea of isolation; to watch, i.e. be on guard (literally or figuratively); by implication, to preserve, obey, avoid:—beware, keep (self), observe, save.

5442 phylássō (akin to **5441** /phýlaks, "a military guard") – properly, preserve by "having an eye on" (J. Thayer), referring to the uninterrupted vigilance shepherds show in keeping their flocks (see Lk 2:8, used with **5438** /phylakḗ, "a military guard," i.e. exercising unbroken vigilance as a military guard).

Outline of Biblical Usage

- ✓ to guard
- ✓ to watch, keep watch
- ✓ to guard or watch, have an eye upon: lest he escape
- ✓ to guard a person (or thing) that he may remain safe lest he suffer violence, be despoiled, etc.
- ✓ to protect one from a person or thing
- ✓ to keep from being snatched away, preserve safe and unimpaired
- ✓ to guard from being lost or perishing

The verb (phylássō) means to guard something 'so that it is not lost or damaged' (AG). It is used of guarding a palace against marauders and possessions against thieves (Lk. 11:21; Acts 22:20)

American humorist Josh Billings once quipped, "I'd rather know a few things for certain than be sure of a lot of things that ain't so."

Did you hear about the two politicians, who were discussing religion? Don said, "I know a lot about religion...probably more than any other politician."

Frank smirked and said, "Don, I bet you can't even repeat the Lord's prayer."

Don boasted, "I most certainly can. I'll take that bet!" And so he began, "Now I lay me down to sleep. I pray the Lord my soul to keep...."

With great surprise Frank exclaimed, "Well, if that don't beat all. I didn't think you could do it."

A Christian man was once asked what he believed about God. He replied, "I believe what my church believes."

"What does your church believe?"... He said, "My church believes what I believe."

"What do you and your church believe?"... He said, "We both believe the same thing."

Consider three important things we can know for sure from this verse.

(1) I Know Him.

Paul does not say, "I know what I have believed," though that would have been true. He does not say, "I know when I have believed," though that would have been correct. Nor does he say, "I know how much I have believed," although he had well-weighed his faith. He does not even say, "I know in whom I have believed." He says expressly, "I know whom I have believed," as much as to say, "I know the person into whose hand I have committed my present condition and my eternal destiny. I know who he is, and I therefore, with-out any hesitation, leave myself in his hands." (Spurgeon, C. H.).

Paul is affirming his faith in Jesus as the Christ. The Son of God. His Savior. Jesus was not just a historical figure. Or a great leader. Or a superb religious teacher. Paul knew Him as His Redeemer. His Mediator. And His friend.

Do you know Jesus? Really know Him? Not just facts about Him, but know Him? And enjoy a relationship with Him?

(2) I Know He is Able.

We feel sure that He has the words of eternal life, and that all power is given to Him in heaven and on earth. At first there is something of a venture — we trust Him; next, there is the knowledge which comes from experience — we know Him; lastly, there is strong confidence — we are persuaded that He is able. **(F.B. Meyer)**

Paul had committed his soul to the keeping of Christ. His spiritual well being was entrusted to Him. His eternal destiny was in the Savior's hand. No matter how Satan may assault us, Jesus is able to keep us. Protect us. Guard us.

This is why Paul was willing to endure pain, persecution and problems. He knew he could trust the Lord with His soul. Regardless of the challenges that he faced, he possessed a confidence and conviction in Jesus' ability to provide for his needs and assure his salvation.

We, too, can have that knowledge. That assurance. That hope. We serve the same Lord that provided for Paul.

(3) I Know "That Day" Will Come.

What day? Surely he is referring to that day he longed for spoke of in

2 Timothy 4:8 *Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.*

When we know Jesus, and commit our lives to His keeping, we can be assured of a day of reward for our faithfulness. A day of rejoicing. A day when we will see Him face to face. Oh, what a glorious day that will be!

JESUS IS COMING AGAIN! Will it be a day of Judgment or a day of Joy?

One day, James Black, was headed for the Post Office in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. He decided to cut through an alley to save some time. He had never been through the alley before and was not aware of its poverty and the misery it contained. As he walked through the alley, he saw a young girl sweeping the porch of a ramshackle house. She was dressed oh, so poor, and in her young face there were already traces of worry and neglect. "Young lady," he asked. "Do you go to Sunday School?" She replied, "No, Sir, I'd like

to but I don't have anything fit to wear; but Sir, how I'd love to go!" Soon Jim's wife and some friends had delivered clothing and all of the things that would be needed to make the young girl happy and feel wanted and "fit" for Church. Thus began a faithful attendance record for both the Sunday School and the Epworth league. The little girl, Bessie, didn't miss a meeting. Each time there was a roll call she was there. But one day when her name was called there was no reply. Again James Black called her name and still no reply. Troubled thoughts went through his mind. Maybe her drunken father had forbidden her to come or perhaps he had taken to beating her gain. After Church, Black hurriedly made his way to Bessie house, for he knew if she wasn't in Sunday School something was wrong. When he arrived, he found Bessie very sick. Realizing that she was serious he summoned a doctor who diagnosed it as a case of advanced pneumonia. As he walked back to his house, he couldn't shake off the feeling that had come over him when Bessie had failed to respond to the roll call that morning. The thought kept coming back to him that someday there will be a roll call in heaven. Later he sat down at the piano and without any effort at all the words seemed to tumble from his soul. The tune came in the same manner. The song he wrote was first sang a few days later at little Bessie's funeral.

*When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound,
And time shall be no more;
And the morning breaks Eternal, bright and fair,
When the saved of earth shall gather over on the other shore,
And the roll is called up yonder I'll be there.*

There may be a lot things I don't know. But this I know. God is. The Bible is the Word of God. And Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

What do you know? Do you know my Jesus?