

Question: Jesus said to “Fear not.” In Acts 4:13, when John and Peter were called before the religious and political rulers, it was their boldness that impressed the leaders, who knew that they were uneducated and simple men. How can I live without fear, and be bold in doing what God sends me to do?

Answer: We would not have been commanded to “fear not” if it were not possible to live our lives here on earth without fear! This is one of the benefits of being led by God, that fear will disappear out of our lives and the Peace of God will take its place. Most ministers today will tell you that you should not fear any of the circumstances you experience in life, but if you carefully listen to these ministers speaking for only five minutes you will soon find that almost all *express fear in their words*. Their words are a dead-giveaway of the fear that grips them about money matters, health, personal relationships, their church, or whether or not the “devil” can somehow steal the blessings God has for them! They may *tell you* that they do not fear, but their fear is merely cloaked by using other words such as “being concerned” or “uneasy” about situations, or they talk nervously about what “might happen.”

Our confidence comes from **knowing** (not just hoping or “believing”) that there is only **One Power** operating in all situations and circumstances we encounter. We live and move and have our being IN this **One Power**. It beats the hearts, works the voice boxes, and holds together the atoms of people and circumstances we think are our “enemies.” The truth is that since God is everywhere present (even in the bodies and words of those we might believe to be our enemies), when we encounter those who appear to be our “enemies” we are actually simply encountering God operating in and through them. No wonder Jesus said to love your enemies!

As the Spirit tells us in Romans 8:28, all “things” (forms of expression of the **One Power**) really do work together for the **good** of those who “love God” (to those who love Truth, since God is Truth). So when you “meet your enemy in the way, agree with him quickly.” (Matthew 5:25.) **Know that your “enemy” is actually your “energy”** -- the same energy that manifests **in** and **as** you. Your energy is your very own spirit; it is your individualized Life force.

When Pilate threatened Jesus that he could order him to be crucified, Jesus responded that Pilate would have absolutely NO power except it was given to him from above (John 19:11). This means that Pilate had no ability to harm or take anything at all away from Jesus. Pilate was merely a vessel used by God demonstrate His power and to accomplish God’s plan, and Jesus confidently recognized that there was nothing Pilate could possibly do that was not permitted by the Father. What a freeing experience -- to KNOW of a certainty that no matter what a “Pilate” in our life can or will do, it is our Father who allows it!

The apostle Paul said in Romans 13:1 that there is no power, but of God -- and that the powers that be are ordained by God. **So resist not the One Power!** Know that as you have submitted yourself to the will of the Father, NO “evil” thing can harm or hurt you! As an individual who is led of God in what you do and say, there is NO ONE more powerful than you. You are **one with Cause**, and no “effects” have **any** ability to do **anything** in your life without the express permission of your heavenly Father. If and when the Father allows “negative” energy to assail us, it is always for our highest good.

Daniel 2:21 says that it is God that “removeth kings and setteth up kings.” Like Moses, if you are led of God and you meet a “Pharaoh” whose heart is hardened against you, know that it is the **One Power** that is working through his hardened heart. Your responsibility is only to do what you are led to do and to speak the words you are led to speak. The outcomes are not yours to be concerned about.

Does “agreeing with our enemy” mean we should always meekly accept whatever life dishes out to us? Absolutely not! We must be led of God in each situation as to how to respond to it. Sometimes you will

be led to simply be quiet, and other times you will be led to act assertively. Also remember that there is no independently operating “devil” -- at all -- that can harm you. The **only** “devil” you will ever encounter is your ignorant, carnal mind that must be renewed by the words of Truth and Life.

When we see it correctly, *why wouldn't we speak with boldness and live our lives without fear?* There is no power you will ever encounter, except that which be of God!