



Striving According to God's Power

"These are in accordance with the working of the strength of [God's] might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead" ([Eph. 1:19-20](#)).

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the great hope of believers. Because He lives, we will live also ([John 14:19](#)). Peter said we have been "born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away" ([1 Pet. 1:3-4](#)). We and what we have are protected by God's power (v. 5).

In [Ephesians 1:19-20](#) Paul draws two comparisons. The first is between the power God demonstrated in the resurrection and ascension of Christ, and the power He demonstrates on behalf of every believer. That power is described as God's "working," "strength," and "might." Together those synonyms emphasize the greatness of God's power, which not only secures our salvation, but also enables us to live godly lives.

The second comparison is between our Lord's resurrection and ascension, and ours. The grave couldn't hold Him, nor can it hold us ([1 Cor. 15:54-57](#)). Satan himself couldn't prevent Christ's exaltation, nor can he prevent us from gaining our eternal inheritance.

In Christ you have all the power you will ever need. For evangelism you have the gospel itself, which "is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes" ([Rom. 1:16](#)). For difficult times you have the assurance that the surpassing greatness of God's power is at work in you ([2 Cor. 4:7](#)). For holy living you have God Himself at work in you "both to will and to work for His good pleasure" ([Phil. 2:13](#)).

No matter how weak or ill-equipped you may at times feel, realize God "is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that [you] ask or think, according to the power that works within [you]" ([Eph. 3:20](#)). So keep striving according to that power ([Col. 1:29](#)), but do so with the confidence that ultimately God will accomplish His good in your life.

Suggestions for Prayer:

- Thank God that He can and will accomplish His purposes in your life ([Phil. 1:6](#); [1 Thess. 5:24](#)).

- Pray for wisdom in how you might best serve Him today.

For Further Study:

Read Psalm 145, noting every mention of God's power David makes. Allow those examples to fill your heart with confidence and praise.