

WHEN THE SPIRIT LIFTS US UP

Scripture: Ezekiel 43:1-5

Introduction

What a tremendous statement of the compassion and concern of the Holy Spirit -- from falling on his face to being lifted up by the Holy Spirit!

God's people experience the power and provision of the Spirit best when after falling on our face before Him we become aware of His glory and allow His glory to fill our lives.

His Spirit lifts us up when:

I. When we fall on our face in defeat

When the enemy shall come like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.

Isaiah 59:19 JKV

Then Samson prayed to the Lord, "O Sovereign Lord, remember me. O God, please strengthen me just once more,....

Judges 16:28a NIV

A. Nothing brings about defeat like sin

B. Sin causes the heavens to be closed to us

When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because your people have sinned against you....

2 Chronicles 6:26a NIV

C. The prayer of repentance will cause His Spirit to lift you up

When your people Israel have been defeated by an enemy because they have sinned against you and when they turn back and confess your name, praying and making supplication before you in this temple, then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your people Israel and bring them back to the land you gave to them and their fathers.

2 Chronicles 6:24-25 NIV

II. When we fall on our face in despair

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In my distress, I cried unto the Lord and he heard me.

Psalm 120:1 KJV

When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved.

Acts 28:20 NIV

- A. Because our life situation is out of control
- B. Because divine help has not come in our time frame
- C. Because all hope of deliverance is lost

Last night an angel of the God whose I am and whom I serve stood beside me and said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.' So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that It will happen just as he told me.

Acts 28:23-25 NIV

III. When we fall on our faces in prayer, praise, and adoration

Then the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court, and the glory of the Lord filled the temple.

Ezekiel 43:5 NIV

- A. Seeking to walk in His fellowship
- B. Responding to His greatness in adoration
- C. Presenting our petition before Him