



Wings of NOPE

AN ENGLISH DIGITAL WEEKLY FROM CHRISTIAN LIVE FAMILY

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WHEN GOD TURNS
THE RULERS OF
NATIONS AGAINST
GOD'S PEOPLE

“THE ATHLETE-
CHRISTIAN”

**Change your Words,
Change Your World,
Shape Your Future**

Joel Osteen USA

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CONTENTS

**“YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR
WILL BE DONE, ON EARTH AS
IT IS IN HEAVEN.”**

4



**CHALLENGING
“TIMES IN OUR LIFE**

7



**“THE ATHLETE-
CHRISTIAN”**

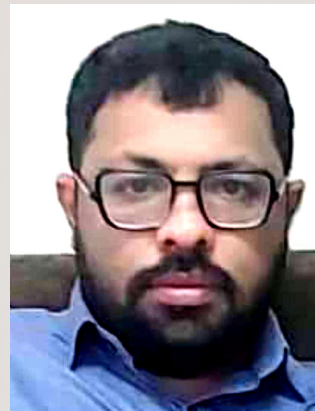
8



Editorial

Wings of Hope

A new online digital weekly is coming to you from Christian Live Publications. We have named this weekly as "wings of hope", which means to spread the wings of hope and fly high. I trust that you will love this publication too.



Blessin John Malayil
Chief Editor

Our new generation speaks and writes only in English. Therefore, we need to speak to them about Christ in their language and style. Or tomorrow, Christendom may lose them. And English comes to speak with our beloved people of other languages and cultures around the world.

It is in this context that Christian Live is forced to publish an English weekly. Thank you, readers, for sticking with us so far.

Our goal forever is to glorify Christ and talk about the kingdom of God. We stand on a great battlefield in the battle with evil. But the final victory is ours. Because Christ is our commander and victory flag. “This weekly called "Wings of Hope" is starting its journey here. We pray that this endeavour will become a great ministry that will always stand for Christ. We earnestly seek your love, co-operation, and support ahead.

With prayer and hope “These wings' are presented before you.

Change your Words, Change Your World, Shape Your Future



Joel Osteen USA

I once read an article about doctors who incorporated “talk therapy” to treat patients suffering with depression. Instead of medicating the problem, the doctors instructed the patients to start making positive declarations over their lives, saying such things as: “I have a bright future. People like to be around me. Good things are in store. Some of the patients were depressed because they were facing life-threatening diseases and felt there was no hope. The doctor asked them, “Has anyone ever survived this disease?” The answers were always yes. So he told them, “Then I want you to start saying, ‘I will make it. I will be one of the people who beats the odds.’ Those patients obeyed the doctor’s orders, and amazingly, many of them not only came out of their depression, but they also made full recoveries! It’s time to use our words to declare good things! Speak blessings over your life and your family. Throughout the day, say things such as, “I have the favor of God.

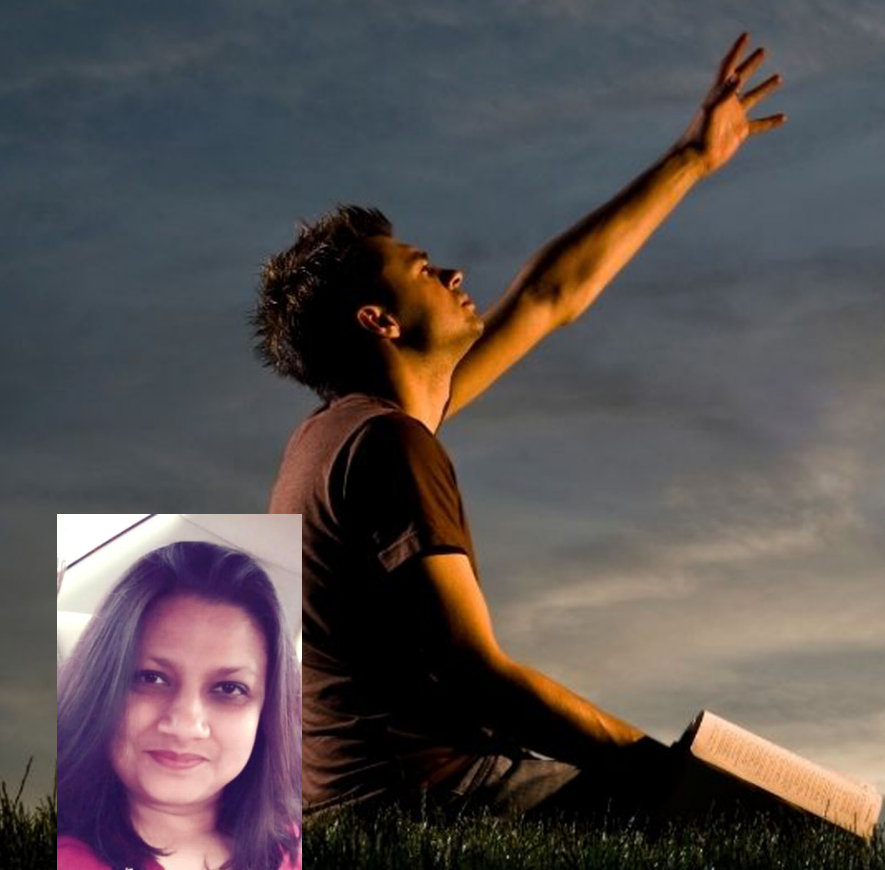
I am strong and healthy. I’m well able to do what I need to do. I have the favor of God. I am strong & healthy. I’m well able to do what I need to do. Did you know that what you say about yourself has greater impact on you than anything anybody else says about you? Many people are overly critical of themselves, saying, “I’m so clumsy. I can’t do anything right.” “I’m so overweight. I’ll never get back into shape.” “I never get any good breaks.” They may not realize it, but they are cursing their future. Those words sink into their minds. Before long, they develop a defeated mentality, low self-esteem and diminished confidence. Worse yet, those negative mindsets can interfere with God’s plan for their lives.

One of the best ways to break free from such strongholds is simply by speaking words of victory. Every day, look in the mirror and declare, “God’s Word says I am strong. God is fighting my battles for me. I’m excited about my future.” Maybe you are lonely because you don’t have a lot of friends. Instead of complaining, start declaring, “God is bringing great people into my life. I know He loves me, so I can risk loving others.” Speak blessings over your life, and as you do, you’ll go out with more confidence, you’ll be more congenial and, in turn, you will attract new friends. When discouragement comes, instead of sitting back and accepting it, say, “No, I’m a victor and not a victim. I may have been defeated before, but the past is the past. This is a new day.” It’s not enough just to think it; you need to hear it, because what we constantly hear ourselves saying we will eventually believe. Some people live in a perpetual state of financial crisis. They can’t seem to pay their bills — always living “under their circumstances” and constantly speaking defeat. If you are struggling financially, remind yourself repeatedly, “I am the head and I am not the tail. I will lend and I will not

“ Do not let another critical word come out of your mouth about yourself. Instead, take a few minutes every day to bless your life, to declare the victory.

borrow. Everything I touch will prosper and succeed.” I am the head and not the tail. I will lend and not borrow. Everything I touch will prosper Oh, Joel, I can’t say that,” you may be thinking. “None of that is true in my life. Yes, it is true! That is what faith is all about. The world says you need to see it to believe it, but God says you must believe and then you’ll see it. You must speak it by faith. Make a list of your goals, your dreams, the areas where you want to see change. Confirm your desires by Scripture, and then every day before you leave the house, speak those blessings aloud. Something supernatural happens when you speak those words aloud. Maybe you struggle with condemnation because of past mistakes. Each day, boldly declare, “I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. God is pleased with me.

He is on my side.” If you say something like that on a consistent basis, guilt and condemnation won’t hang around. When my mother was diagnosed with terminal cancer in 1981, she made a list of 40 Scripture passages about healing. All through the day, she’d quote those Scriptures and say things such as, “I will live and not die. God is restoring health unto me. With long life He satisfies me. I will live and not die. God is restoring health unto me. With long life he satisfies me. Even though she weighed a mere 89 pounds and the doctors had given her only a few weeks to live, Mother refused to see herself as defeated and dying. Instead, she saw herself growing stronger, living a long, healthy, happy life. Her words caused her faith to rise and filled her with hope. Little by little she started feeling better, and eventually, God supernaturally healed her! Today, nearly a quarter of a century later, Mother is still vibrantly alive and praying for other people to be healed, as well. Moreover, to this day, before she leaves the house, she speaks words of blessing over her life. You can do the same thing. Find the Scriptures that apply to your situation and then declare them. This is especially important in areas in which you continually struggle. Do not let another critical word come out of your mouth about yourself. Instead, take a few minutes every day to bless your life, to declare the victory. Understand, it’s not enough to avoid saying anything negative; you must go on the offensive and start making positive declarations over your life. Remember, your own words will have more impact on your future than anything anybody else says about you. Friend, if you’ll do your part and speak words of victory, God will pour out His favor in exciting, fresh ways in your life, and you will live the abundant life He has in store for you.



Yaanii Sarkar UAE

“Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

Ever since my radical encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ six years back in July 2017, I have been very keen on meeting and learning and reading about different generals of God in different parts of the world. God has been so gracious, and HE has made me meet so many of them in these six years of my walk with the Lord. They all have different anointings and they all carry HIS PRESENCE in different tangible ways. One such God’s General that I had the great fortune to meet this last week was Anne DeLeyser from Wales, UK. Anne is in her sixties with a lean and slim stature, pure white hair, and sparkling eyes. A cancer survivor and a go-getter, she has travelled half the world preaching the Gospel and teaching communities how to host the presence of God and bring revival. She was blessed mightily by getting an impartation from the two old ladies who had started the Hebrides Revival of UK in 1949 – 1952. Anne had flown down to UAE and I could spend 3 days with her, just soaking up from her like a sponge. God knew my heart and I was able to organize a small get together with some of my friends, so that she can impart to all, before she left.

When we as ‘Believers’ look at the mighty men and women of God, the first thought that comes to all of us is that we are not worthy, we are a Nobody, the work of the Kingdom of God is for a chosen few, etc., etc., etc. But this is just not true. Throughout the Bible God’s pattern has been to use obscure and marginal people and change the world through them. A tax collector,

some fishermen, some controversial women, some children and a community of Galileans which was looked down upon by the Jews were the ones Jesus used as HIS team and HIS workers. So, with this definition, you and me and many like us are all eligible to apply for this mission of God.

Throughout history, the people used for changing the world with revivals were simple, not-so-obvious choice. Anne this last week taught me that a small group of people, can adopt a small local area for Jesus, worship and pray for the breaking in of the Kingdom of God and play their part in its release through their life and witness. We are



all pilgrims on a journey of learning together and one of the most evocative places can be our neighbourhood, our city, our nation where we are placed.

“Stop at the crossroads and look around. Ask for the old, godly way and walk in it. Travel its path, and you will find rest for your souls.” Jeremiah 6:16

Anne taught that as a group, our objective should be to develop an understanding of the Gospel of the Kingdom and how can we make this as

Throughout history, the people used for changing the world with revivals were simple, not-so-obvious choice...

I often ask people in my Church and community to close their eyes and picture what it would look like if the Kingdom of God came to their little piece of earth, to their homes, to their churches, to their neighbourhood, their area, to their workplace, to their community. They will close their eyes and ask God to reveal it to them. And they will see pictures, giving them an opportunity to connect their faith with what God has already shown them. It moves them into a place where they can believe God will do what HE has shown them HE wants to do.

So, as a group our objective should be to strengthen a lifestyle of cultivating HIS presence and becoming more aware of HIS presence in our daily life. We can then become a people of blessing by speaking blessings from HIS presence and proclaiming them in our communities.

We can always say like Moses said, “who am I to do this?”, but I love the fact that God didn’t even answer the question. HE didn’t say, “Moses you are really good at speaking etc., etc.”. But God said, “MY PRESENCE WILL COME WITH YOU”.

This is what we should do on a daily basis. Learn how to posture ourselves to hear from God. And then explore different ways to hear from God. We should allow God to shape our expectations as we listen and then learn how to obey HIS still small voice in our personal and corporate journey for our lives. When we develop a culture of testimony, we can reflect on God’s story for our community, our story and the invitation into HIS story for others. And when we speak blessings over our community, this can fuel multiplication and organic growth. And this is how we can live in and from REST. This daily rhythm of prayer can help in developing God’s rhythms for our community. Nature has a rhythm and we have a rhythm. God has given us rhythms in the four seasons. There are seasons and times for each activity under heaven.

Anne calls them answering Caleb Questions to find God’s rhythm.

1. Who/ What can you affirm and bless?
2. To whom can you show mercy?
3. With whom can you share the Gospel?
4. What opportunity is God opening up to you to declare the good news of the Kingdom in your area?
5. Who should you encourage to join with you?

My heart is for every believer to exercise their God given authority and mandate to go out and preach the Gospel, without being judgemental but just by showing the Agape love of our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that every person reading this will take this as a God given opportunity to use these simple principles and bring heaven on earth. God is NOT complicated and the Gospel is NOT complex but very simple.

Rely on God

I see you , I feel your pain.
“Frustration soars and you think it is too much.
“Everything seems like it is falling apart,
“And nothing is working out.

Just at that point when you feel you have had enough,
Jesus is saying ,I know that things are tough ,
Trust in what I can do, it is time that you accept
That you cannot do it on your own.

I am shaping you for the next phase of your life.
Old chapters are closing and new doors are opening.
It is time to show that you are a diamond in the rough,
Ready to shine like the rising of the sun.



Maryann Bosah, UK

LAUGHING TIME

seventeenth chapter

A minister wound up the services one morning by saying, "next Sunday I am going to preach on the subject of liars. And in this connection, as a preparation for my discourse, I would like you all to read the seventeenth chapter of Mark." On the following Sunday, the preacher rose to begin, and said, "Now, then, all of you who have done as I requested and read the seventeenth chapter of Mark, please raise your hands." Nearly every hand in the congregation went up. Then said the preacher, "You are the people I want to talk to. There is no seventeenth chapter of Mark."



“ What God requires of His people is a real repentance over their sins and return from their fallen state

WHEN GOD TURNS THE RULERS OF NATIONS AGAINST GOD'S PEOPLE

There are so many incidents in the Bible God invited the rulers of the Nations to turn against God's people.

In all such incidents, the unrepented attitude of God's people was the reason behind it. When Israel conquered the promised land, they occupied it having defeated the seven nations which were inhabitants of it.

Once they settled in the Land, their true walks of life lasted only up to the days of Joshua and Eliazer the High priest.

After that, they declined into idolatry and fornication with the people surrounding their Land.

In spite of repeated warnings through God's prophets, they hardened their heart like the untamed and adamant calf and sinned against the Holy one of Israel.

As a result, exactly they were enslaved to seven nations during the period of Judges. “ When they completed 490 years of their stay in the Land, they were carried away into Babylon by Nebuchad Nezar the King. God said, Nebuchad Nazer my servant shall fulfill the desire of my heart.

God's desire in delivering His people to a heathen king was twofold.

Firstly, cleanse the nation from the terrible sins they had indulged, so that the promised Messiah be brought in time through a remnant who passed out from the captivity. Secondly, God also had another purpose with captivity, to teach the nation the terrible consequence of their unrepented sin. The nation carried away into captivity had returned only when they were perfected in vision according to God's standard. Time and again, they turned their back to God, though the Prophets for a long time warned them of God's severe punishment against their Sinful life. The history tells us that Israelites never again returned to idolatry and fornication once they returned from their captivity. For, they tasted the consequence of their sins well in captivity. Nowadays we notice, several people talking about the chance of religious persecution in our Country pointing out the riots going on in Manipur and other parts of North.

No need to cry about it now. Getting ready to persecution is my humble suggestion. Christianity came to India 2000 years ago, but still we are 2.5% in our population. The Christians in India most of them they do not live upto their claim. All kinds of sins and wretchedness God hates are found in our midst even



E S Thomas

among the so-called believers. Even the separated movements, are not ready to repent about their wayward life style or to denounce the sinful practices they silently approved among them. ““In such a situation, do you think God will keep Himself silent for long ? No, He will rise up to cleanse His people exactly the way He dealt with His own people Israel.

Persecution from outside becomes mandatory, when God's people continue in an unrepented state of spiritual anarchy! Though not applicable to all Churches of the Brethren and pentos, few, going to the Sunday worship is a horror. Because, immediately after the first part of the worship, some choleric stand up and make the situation worse than the ISIS Camp. They favor such horror in order to justify their unholy practices of divorce and remarriages of their Children. Ashamed not to say, some Churches are ruled by Fathers who arranged the remarriages of their children after divorce. !““Some, though have not arranged remarriages, but obtained divorce of their children through Court of Law yet want to lead the Church all in all.!

How long a Holy God will suffer such anarchy in His Church. ?““When it comes to such, spiritual declension, the Church will continue to fall into a dormancy and will become irreparably lost and lay destitute of spiritual blessings! Such situation invariably invite God's judgement. “So, need not to cry over the oncoming persecution. What God requires of His people is a real repentance over their sins and return from their fallen state. Or what will happen is finally they will have experienced the candle stick being removed from their midst and, the Church will remain a building with no believers in it. This was exactly happened to the Church at Ephesus.

“Many of our old Churches in Kerala will be Shut down buildings in a few years. No Church which spares the sins God abhorred will have its future existence, for no man can intelligently continue in sin yet avoid God's judgement. “Be ware of the leaven of Herod which was embracing immorality! ““The leaven of Pharisees which was the only outward demonstration of piety which had no inward reality. ! And the leaven of Sadducees which was the life of irreligion.!

CHALLENGING TIMES IN OUR LIFE

I remember the days of long ago;

I meditate on all your works

and consider what your hands have done.
(Psalm 143:5)

David, the author of this Psalm goes through some challenging times as he is writing this psalm:

The enemy pursues me,

he crushes me to the ground;

he makes me dwell in the darkness

like those long dead. (v. 3).

What is his response though? His response is not to dwell on his circumstances and all the possible negative outcomes. David's response is to remember what God has already done, all the miraculous works in David's life but also in the lives of his ancestors Abraham, Jacob, Joseph and so many others. David draws his strength and comfort from Who God is and what he knows about God already.

We might not be in an actual war battle, but we also go through times that seem dark and challenging. In those times we can follow the example of King David: we can meditate on our history with God: what is some area where God has already come through? What are some impossible situations where God has shown His mighty hand?

It could be that we have never gone through a similar situation we are undergoing right now. Still, we can turn to the testimonies of our brothers and sisters, we can find amazing miracles in the Bible.

God is mighty, He was, has and is doing amazing things among His people, let's put our eyes on the truth of Who God is and remember all His wonderful deeds.



Sevda Turajova
Azerbaijan



Sam K. Mani, UAE

“...the race is not to the swift...” (Eccl. 9:11)

Sporting events are very familiar to people of all nations and cultures. These events range from indigenous sports within a local community to a sport or sporting event that are carried out on an international platform. None is more familiar than the Olympics that happen once in every four years. The origin of festivals and games in ancient Greece at Olympia is likewise familiar to residents of the western world. In ancient Greece similar events were also held in other centers such as those at Delphi, Nemea, and especially in the Isthmus of Corinth. These occasions drew competition from throughout the Greek world. Here many different contests were featured such as the arts (music and poetry), personal combat (e.g., boxing and wrestling), and chariot races. The main attractions, however, were foot races of various lengths.

The influence of this background enabled Apostle Paul to compare the Christian life of an individual as to that of an athletic race. Even towards his end, Paul states “I have fought the good fight, *finished my race*, and kept the good faith...” comparing his life with a race. Paul’s view is in line with his contemporary Greek philosophers, who commonly used athletic illustrations to describe their striving for truth and wise living. Paul makes use of the key athletic event in the Greek games- the foot race. The prestige of winning the event was such that the winner’s name was often attached to the set of games; Greek historians refer to the year in which “x” won the stadion at the Olympic Games. Competing in a race was not sufficient; it was of utmost importance to win. In applying this principle to the Christian life, Paul’s point of emphasis is that believers should strive to complete successfully the course that God has set out for them.

The renowned American Christian Televangelist Robert H. Schuller once stated “*Spectacular achievement is always preceded by unspectacular preparation.*” Before a race or any sporting event, an athlete undergoes a strict and orderly training that equips him/her to compete in the race. When this training is applied and the corresponding stipulations on various other aspects are strictly

followed, strengthens the athlete both mentally and physically to be confident in competing and gives a hope to win the race. Through this article, we shall see how the Christian life of a person, if led as per the requisites of an athlete, would enable us to attain the reward that the Christian life offers.

The Athletic Life

There are three basics to an athletic life- “three P’s”: Preparation, Practice, and Performance. Once these three P’s are successfully completed, the athlete is rewarded. Attaining the reward is the goal to which the athlete presses on towards.

i. Preparation:

The first and the basic step to place before the race is to prepare oneself mentally and physically. In the spiritual

“THE ATHLETE-CHRISTIAN”

realm, spiritual preparation is the key element. One should have a decision and determination to run the race and mentally prepare himself/herself for the same. The determination to follow Christ and thus to be a part of the race comes from the decision made by an individual. Therefore, the primary step to begin the race comes from the mental preparation.

Once an athlete has decided that he/she would participate in the race, the next thing that they do is to identify the event that they would participate in. This helps them to prepare themselves physically for the particular race, as different races requires different modes of practice. For instance, a hundred meter runner would practice to improve his/her speed, while a 5,000 meter runner would practice with an aim for increasing the stamina. Each one of us are running a different race. It is the duty of each athlete-Christian to understand what his/her race is and prepare themselves for it so that they can complete the race.

There are certain dietary regulations that an athlete follows. This diet helps them to be strong and fit to win the race with ease. They also choose the right equipment, so that it would enable them to run the race with ease and attain the goal that they anticipate to accomplish. An athlete-Christian should also choose what he/she needs and their choice should not cause them to falter mid-race. As Apostle Paul rightly points out, “...*everything is permissible, but not everything is beneficial...*” (1 Cor. 10:23). The choice made plays a pivotal role in helping us accomplishing the set goal, and therefore the decisions should be made wisely.

Learning the rules of the race is very essential. The athlete who does not abide by the rules will be disqualified. Paul rightly points it out in 1 Timothy 2:5, “...*if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victors crown unless he competes according to the rules.*” This has been a practice from time immemorial. The manual for an athlete-Christian is the Bible. If he/she does not abide and compete by the rules, he or she faces the

Next page...

risk of being disqualified or eliminated. If this should not happen, one must be well versed in the rules.

ii. Practice

Practice is the next step after preparation. It simply means developing basic skills required of the sport and keeping them sharp. It develops the skill in a person and prepares him/her for the final event. Several Greek words for practice/effort are found in the New Testament and three appear as distinct synonyms: “mochthos” (μᾶλιστα), “hardship,” was often used to describe the physical or mental toil that is the common lot of all men; “ponos” (πόνος), “effort,” suggested that the task in which a man was engaged demanded his whole strength; and “kopos” (κόπος), “weariness,” emphasized the fatigue resulting from extreme toil.

Usually, an athlete begins the training session by doing warm-ups. This helps in relaxing the muscles and frees the individual from physical and mental rigidity. But for the athlete-Christian, prayer can be considered to be the best warm-up. It relaxes the inner man as well as the mind and enables him/her to prepare for the long practice sessions.

Accustoming to the new situations is an important factor for an athlete. There is a great change in the patterns of life as he/she begins the training. At first it would be a bit difficult, but the determination and the foresight of the goal to be achieved will enable the athlete to soon accustom to the situations and practice meticulously. This meticulous training benefits a lot as the more the athlete practices, the race becomes easier to run. For instance, an athlete who competes in the 800 meter race, would practice by running 1,200 meters. This makes him/her confident to run the race which is of a lesser distance than that which was practiced. This increases the speed and the agility to compete. Same is the case for the athlete-Christian: the more the practice, the easier it is to run the race as one is confident that he/she has prepared well, and the ‘load to bear’ would be light.

An important thing that the athletes do is to set milestones to be achieved and rigorously toil until they achieve it. This plays a cardinal role in the effectiveness of the practice. An athlete-Christian should always make it a point to grow day by day in his/her spiritual life, only then will the inner man be strengthened to run the race with endurance.

The athletes always rely on and obey the coach and his/her instructions. The coach is usually a person who was successful in his/her own respective areas and would give instructions to the athlete on how to improve and what to do and what not to do. The coach always knows what is best for each of his trainees. Though the instructions might be tough to follow, it will definitely help in the long run. The athlete-Christians have the best coach that anyone can get- the Holy Spirit, who guides us in the way that the athlete-Christian should go, (John 16:7ff).

The athletes and the coaches would always make it a point to take examples of successful athletes, adopting positive ideas and methods that would enable to make the practice and the race easier. The author of Hebrews points out that we have a “cloud of witness around us,” who eagerly watches on to see how we compete. The Bible, as mentioned earlier, is a great manual which describes of how these “witnesses” ran and completed the race successfully, and also shows how some have failed. This remains as an example to all the athlete-Christians, as to how to run and how not to run.

In all of these situations, the athlete makes it a point not to turn back to the old ways that which he/she had followed, be it dietary or others, as it would nullify the effect of the preparation and practice that which they had done thus far. The same is to be applied in the lives of the athlete-Christians,

and always be on vigilant guard that one does not turn back to the old ways that were once followed. Because, “...if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, and the new has come!” Those who turn to the old ways are compared to “a dog returning to its vomit,” as seen in Proverbs 26.

iii. Performance

Performance is the application of the preparation and practice in the arena. All the work done approaches its culmination here, as the athlete runs the race for which he/she had been awaiting for a long time. The prime target of the athlete is to win the race by finishing first and be given the gold medal; in the Pauline times, a pure garland wreath or crown of dry celery at the Isthmian Games. Unlike the secular athlete who competes with preparation and practice just to win a perishable crown, the athlete-Christian looks forward to an “imperishable crown” (1 Cor. 9:25), and must strive forward to achieve an eternal “crown of life that God promised to those who love him” (James 1:12 and Rev. 2:10).

The athletes put in their full potential while in the race, aiming to attain the goal and get rewarded. The Christian race demands of an athlete-Christian nothing less than his/her very best in the race, “giving fully to the work of the Lord”, and be reminded that “your labor in the Lord is not in vain” (1 Cor. 15:58).

A dedicated athlete does not look backward and thus lose his stride, momentum, and focus. Rather, he strains every muscle as he keeps his eyes fixed on the finish line and the achieving of his anticipated goal. The race of the athlete-Christian is to be run steadily, not looking to the left or the right, where the world has many things to offer and thus deviate and hamper him/her from reaching the finish line. This is why the author of Hebrews reminds us to “...fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith...” so that we wouldn’t lose our focus and thus complete the race kept for each individual athlete-Christian.

The Reward

After all these phases are completed, the athlete will receive the reward, as stated earlier, one that is imperishable and that which cannot be taken away from the victor. The victor’s crown will be placed on the one who completes the race. Apostle Paul portrays the athlete-Christian as being led as members of Christ’s victory procession (2 Cor. 2:14), and Jesus the righteous judge would honor the victors on that glorious day (2 Tim. 4:8), which is the hope of every athlete-Christian.

Christian race is not about who completes the race first or who completes second, but it is about completing the race set for an individual, by crossing the finish line and not to fall short of it or be disqualified mid-race. It is not about how fast you run- it is about how you finish the race. The specialty of the Christian race is that everyone who completes the race will be rewarded.

Taking Paul as a model, also adapting the life of an athlete and applying the physical aspects of “Preparation”, “Practice” and “Performance” in a spiritual aspect, let us make our prayer- just as the hymn implores:

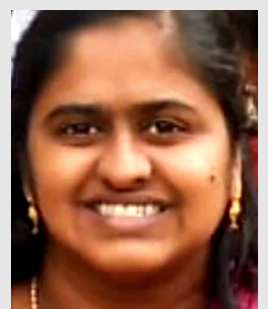
“Keep me true, Lord Jesus, Keep me true
Keep me true, Lord Jesus, Keep me true
There’s a race that I must run,
There are victories to be won,
Give me power, every hour, to be true”

I wish that all of us- the fellow athlete-Christians, would have the right “Preparation”, “Practice” and thus “Perform” well in the arena, doing one thing: “...forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, pressing on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called us...” (Phil. 3:13, 14).



Blessing and Curse

A father and his son were very friendly. The father used to pray for others and his son was a believer. One day, both of them got into an argument. The father cursed his son saying that he would suffer from fever for 3 days. After a few days, the father suffered from fever, but nothing happened to his son. The father remained like that for 5 days. Only then, he realised his mistake. He who used to pray for others had cursed his son. He repented and asked for God's forgiveness. He also apologised to his son. From that day onwards, he never cursed anyone. James 3:10 "Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be."



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