

***“The Source Of Spiritual Success!”***  
***Zechariah 4:6***

**Introduction:**

1. Desire For Success!
    - Noone Wants To Fail!
    - Everyone Wants To Succeed!
    - But How Do You Know If You Have Succeeded?
    - Look At:
  2. Definitions Of Success!
    - There Are Many!
      - Depends On The Person!
      - Depends On The Pursuit!
    - “Success Occurs When Opportunity Meets Preparation!” (Zig Ziglar)
    - “Success Is How High You Bounce When You Hit Bottom!” (General George Patton)
    - “85% Of Success Is Just Showing Up!”
  3. Success Should Be No Less Desired In Our Spiritual Pursuits Than In Our Secular / Physical Pursuits!
    - Good To Desire Success In Your:
      - Prayers
      - Witness
      - Service
      - Devotions
      - Over Sin
      - Church
    - How Do You Know If You Have Succeeded?
      - When We Compare Spiritual Success To Other Forms Of Success, We Are Tempted To Look At The Results, In Order To See Whether Or Not We Have Succeeded!
      - So, When A Specific Prayer Is Not Answered In The Way We Want Or When We Want, We Think We Have Failed!
      - When We Witness, And Noone Gets Saved, We Think We Have Failed!
      - When We Serve, And Noone Notices Or There Is No Visible Impact, We Think We Have Failed!
      - When We Do Our Devotions Regularly And Faithfully, But We See Little Change In Our Own Life, We Think We Have Failed!
      - Or, When We Pour Our Hearts & Souls Into The Church, And There Is No Apparent Change Or Growth, We Think We Have Failed!
    - But Are The Results The Only Measure Of Spiritual Success?
      - When We Focus Only On The Results, I Think We Are Failing – Failing To Recognize The Only Source Of Spiritual Success!
- \* Zechariah 4:6 Tells Us What Is The Only Source Of Spiritual Success!
- “Not By Might, Nor By Power, But By My Spirit Saith The Lord Of Hosts!”
    - Not By Human Might / Power!
  - The Jews Were:
    - Repairing The Walls Of Jerusalem!
    - Rebuilding The Temple Of The Lord!
    - Being Ridiculed By Their Enemies!
  - The Lord Uses Zechariah To Encourage Them!
    - They Would Surely Succeed!
    - Because Success Did Not Rely Upon their Power & Might!
      - If It Did, They Would Surely Have Failed!
    - But, Because Success Comes From The Infinite Power & Might Of God, Through The Holy Spirit!

\* So, On What Does Spiritual Success Depend? (Or, Rather, On Whom?)

1. ***Spiritual Success Does Not Depend On:***
  - ***The Power Of Human Authority!***
    - “Chain Of Command” Is How The World Operates & It Is Effective. But This Is Not How The Body Of Christ Is To Operate! It Is Not A Corporation!
  - ***Spiritual Success Does Depend On:***
    - ***The Power Of The Spirit’s Authority!***
      - In Order To Achieve Spiritual Success, We Must Depend Upon The Authority Of God, Not Man, And The Approval Of God, Not Man!
  
2. ***Spiritual Success Does Not Depend On:***
  - ***The Power Of Human Strength!***
    - “Might Makes Right” Is How The World Operates!
    - Matthew 26:51
  - ***Spiritual Success Does Depend On:***
    - ***The Power Of The Spirit’s Strength!***
      - In Order To Achieve Spiritual Success, We Must Depend On The Strength Of God!
  
3. ***Spiritual Success Does Not Depend On:***
  - ***The Power Of Human Wisdom!***
    - Using Human Psychology & Marketing Techniques!
    - 1 Corinthians 3:19!
  - ***Spiritual Success Does Depend On:***
    - ***The Power Of The Spirit’s Wisdom!***
      - Consider The Power Of His Words!
      - See John 6:63!
      - In Order To Achieve Spiritual Success, We Need To Depend On The Wisdom Of God!
  
4. ***Spiritual Success Does Not Depend On:***
  - ***The Power Of Human Wealth!***
    - “Money Makes The World Go Around!” – But It Is Not The Equivalent Of Spiritual Success!
  - ***Spiritual Success Does Depend On:***
    - ***The Power Of The Spirit’s Wealth!***
      - In Order To Achieve Spiritual Success, We Must Depend On The Resources Of God!

**Conclusion:**

1. Do You Desire Spiritual Success?
  - First:
    - You Must Learn To Define Spiritual Success The Way God Defines It!
      - It’s About Faithfulness & Fruit That Remains! Not Fruit That Is Fleeting! (Stewards)
  - Second:
    - You Must Learn To Depend Upon The True Source Of Spiritual Success!
      - “It Is The Spirit That Quickeneth – The Flesh Profiteth Nothing!”
      - Zechariah 4:6!
  
2. If We Rely Upon The Power Of:
  - Human Authority, Strength, Wisdom & Wealth, We May Experience What The World Considers A Success!
  - But We Will Fail In What God Considers A Success!

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