

“GOD HELPS THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES”

Jeremiah 17:5-8

A recent survey revealed that a majority of Americans believe the Bible includes this statement: “*God helps those who help themselves.*” What does the Bible say about this subject? Does God come to the aid of those who refuse to try? Does He only help the self-sufficient? Today, we uncover three insights that help us answer those questions.

1. God Has Expressed His Commitment To Deliver The Helpless.

“You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat.” Isaiah 25:4a

“A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy dwelling.” Psalm 68:5

“You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.”
Romans 5:6

“God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:21

2. God Empowers Those Who Depend On Him.

“I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.” Philippians 4:13

“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.”
Psalm 20:7

“...Apart from Me you can do nothing.” John 15:5b

“Delight yourself in the LORD and He will give you the desires of your heart.” Psalm 37:4

3. God Expects Us To Demonstrate Genuine Faith.

“...The righteous will live by his faith.” Habakkuk 2:4

“...Work out your salvation with fear and trembling.” Philippians 2:12b

“What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, ‘Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing about

his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.” James 2:14-17

*“For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: ‘If a man will not work, he shall not eat.’ We hear that some among you are idle. They are not busy; they are busybodies. Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the bread they eat. And as for you, brothers, never tire of doing what is right.”
2 Thessalonians 3:10-13*

CONCLUSION

“We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.” 2 Corinthians 4:7

- How does my life demonstrate my dependence on God?

PRIMARY RESOURCES USED FOR THIS SERMON INCLUDE:

- “Dependence on God” by Kenneth Boa
- “Does God Help Those Who Help Themselves?” by Dan Edelen
- “Does God Help Those Who Help Themselves?” by Larry Walker