

“Words of Truth”

Ecc. 12:10

“The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth.”

All scriptures are taken from the KJV.

**WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE
CONCERNING**

“ALL THINGS”

IN THE BIBLE ?

Philippians 4:13 says, “I can do **all things** ...” and I Cor. 6:12 says, “**All things** are lawful unto me ...” BUT do you really believe you can do ALL THINGS in a way that pleases God?

I truly believe we can do “all things”, in a way that will please God, if we follow God’s instructions and meet His conditions. What are His instructions and conditions?

That is what we are going to study in this tract.

Always remember, “all things” in the Bible are conditional! As a matter of fact, EVERYTHING

in the Bible is **CONDITIONAL** !!! Even the things people speak of as being **FREE** are only **FREE** under certain conditions.

We will begin with Philippians 4:13 where Paul said, “I can do **all things** through Christ which strengtheneth me.”

What does Paul mean by the statement “I can do all things **through** Christ ...”? The word **through** means to move from one point to another by an opening such as a door or a channel. A good example of a channel would be the Mississippi River. It is a body of

water that flows **through a channel** from the northern part of the United States into the Gulf of Mexico. An example of a door can be found in John 10:7 where we read, “Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the **door** of the sheep.” Again in John 10:9 we read, “I am the **door**: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.” We can conclude from these verses that we **MUST** go **through** Christ (*THE DOOR*) to do all things **BUT HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?** If I understand my Bible correctly, Christ (*Jesus*) is in heaven with the Father. Mark 16:19 says “So then af-

ter the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.”

How could we do anything **through** Christ (*Jesus*) if He is with the Father? Well the truth is we can't do anything through Christ (*Jesus*), because He is in heaven, **BUT** we can do “all things” **through Christ** if we understand this passage of scripture.

That's why the last part of Philippians 4:13 is so important. You see, if your bible says “**who**” instead of “**which**”, you are in trouble! At the present time “**who**” is

in heaven with the Father so you can't do anything **through Christ** (*Jesus*) personally until YOU get to heaven. Thank God Paul said, "**I can do** all things **through Christ** **which** strengtheneth me" instead of "**I can do** all things **through Christ** **who** strengtheneth me".

You see, Paul was saying "I can do" (*present tense*) at the time he wrote Philippians 4:13 instead of "I will do" (*future tense*) once I get to heaven. That means, just like Paul, you and I can do all things **through Christ** NOW! BUT HOW?

That's why Paul chose to use the word "**which**" in Philip-

pians 4:13? I believe God used "**which**" to distinguish between CHRIST (*Jesus*) and CHRIST (the *WORD*)! "**Who**" would be masculine gender and would refer to Christ (*Jesus*) while "**which**" could be masculine gender referring to Christ (*Jesus*) or neuter gender referring to Christ (the *WORD*). You see, the WORD and JESUS are the same. John 1:1 states that, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:14 says, "And the **Word** was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of

grace and truth.”

So 2,017 years ago the first case of artificial insemination was performed by God Himself when God the Father had God the Holy Spirit place God the WORD (the Seed) in the womb of Mary, a virgin, and nine months later God the WORD was made flesh (God the Son - Jesus) and dwelt among us.

Now to tie all of this together. God the WORD became God the SON (Jesus) so they are the same.

The history of the WORD is as follows:

1. In the beginning was the WORD. (God speaks the WORD -

example: He spoke to Moses.)

2. The WORD became flesh (*Jesus Christ*) and dwelt amongst us. God the Son, Jesus Christ, speaks the WORD verbally to all mankind.

3. Jesus Christ went back to the Father and sent the Holy Ghost to have his WORDS and teachings recorded in a book (*Holy Bible*) by holy men of God. II Peter 1:21 “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake (*the WORD*) as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

Again I point you to Philip-

pians 4:13 where Paul said, “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” I also point out that the verse says CHRIST and NOT Jesus or the Word! It is left up to us to chose how we will apply this passage but I think “which” makes that choice for us. I truly believe we must go through Christ but I believe “which” (neuter) refers to the WORD (the Bible). By the way, I have CHRIST (the “WORD) here with me so I can go “THROUGH” Christ (the Bible) any time I choose.

Before we go on let me point out one more thing about the WORD. II Cor. 5:7 says, “(For we

walk by faith, not by sight:).

Then I ask you:

What is this faith?

How do we acquire this faith in God?

Is this step on faith a giant leap into the unknown?

First of all, faith is not a giant leap into the unknown. The following scriptures will point out what faith is and how we acquire it for reasonable application in our lives.

If you really want to know what faith is then look no further

than the Bible. Heb. 11:1 says, “**Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the **evidence** of things not seen.”**

You can't get any more plain than that! First of all faith is substance. It's real, you can get your hands on it, touch it, you can feel it. Next, faith is evidence. You are able to prove things with evidence. Now ask yourself a question. What can I touch and hold that contains evidence which I received from God? Try the BIBLE! You can hold and read the WORD of GOD and everything in it is evidence that has been proven to work for thousands of years. God

has literally given us His written WORD that we can use to walk by faith. It is God's WORD that tells us in Psa. 119:11 “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.”

Do you want to overcome sin in your life? Put the WORD of GOD in your heart and USE it! Do you want to walk by faith and not stumble in your life? Psa. 119:105 says, “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” Let the WORD of GOD shine a light in your life so you never walk in darkness again.

Now that we know what faith is, Heb. 11:1 “Now faith **is**

the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen”, you might ask, how do I get this faith if I can’t read or if I just don’t understand?

Romans 10:17 says, “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

It has been said that you can hear anything, and I guess that is true, but you don’t have to believe everything you hear. It is not only important to hear but if we are to walk by faith in the WORD of GOD we must verify everything we hear by the WORD of GOD. REMEMBER, REMEMBER, REMEMBER - to always check what

you hear by the WORD of GOD (Bible) so your faith will be Gods faith and not someone’s opinion.

Now to sum up what we have learned. Philippians 4:13 says, “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”

I believe we can do all things as long as we use the WORDS and teachings of Christ, as recorded in the Holy Bible, for our instruction and guidance.

Having laid our foundation, which is the WORD of GOD, let us go on with our study of how we can please God in “ALL THINGS” that we do.

I Cor. 10:23 says, “**All things** are lawful for me, but all things are not **expedient**: **all things** are lawful for me, but **all things edify** not.”

Now we are about to receive some instructions and conditions concerning “all things”.

First, what are “all things”? I think it would be safe to say “all things” are “all things” since the Bible did not give any exceptions.

We should remember that when God created everything in Genesis He said that everything

He created was “good”. Assuming God tells the truth, we should be able to make the statement that “all things” can be used for a “good” purpose. It is usually man that finds a way to mess things up, NOT GOD.

What we should take note of is that God gives us some conditions to consider when we decide to do “all things”. One of those conditions is in I Cor. 10:23, “All things are lawful for me, **but** all things are not **expedient**: ...”

What is “expedient”? Expedient implies that “all things”

could be done in an improper or immoral way unless we consider doing them the right way, at the right time, in the right place, etc. There are some things we can do in privacy (*take a bath*) that would not be expedient in public.

We should remember how Jesus said He did “things”. John 8:29 (Jesus said), “And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for **I do always those things that please him.**”

This is the perfect testimony! Wouldn't it be wonderful if we had this testimony. We can have a

testimony like Jesus if we learn to do His instructions that are found in His WORD.

Learn to be “expedient” in your decisions and the “things” you do. Learn to do these things in the right way, at the right place, at the right time, etc.

Another condition we should consider when making our decision to do “all things” is in I Cor. 10:23, “... **all things** are lawful for me, but **all things edify** not.” What does “edify” mean? Edify means to instruct or improve someone morally or intellectually.

We should always be asking ourselves what we are teaching others with the WORDS we are using or the actions and deeds we are doing.

Jesus gave us instructions in Mat. 28:19-20 “Go ye therefore, and **teach** all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 **Teaching them** to observe **all things** whatsoever I have **commanded** you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

What do your WORDS and actions teach others when they

hear and see what you are doing?

Jesus said, “... Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever **I have commanded you: ...**”

Do you keep His commandments? I John 3:22 says, “And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those **things** that are pleasing in his sight.” Let me ask you - do you love Jesus? John 14:15 says, “If ye **love** me, **keep my commandments.**”

You do know that being “expedient” and “edifying” is a

good way to “please” Jesus and show your “love” for Him.

There is another verse that gives us a commandment from God’s WORD to follow. In I Cor. 6:12 it says, “All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: **all things** are lawful for me, but **I will not be brought under the power of any.**”

We have already covered the first part of this verse dealing with “expedient” so we will continue on with the last part of I Cor. 6:12 where it says, “... all things are lawful for me, but **I will not**

be brought under the power of any.”

When most people read this passage of scripture, they immediately think of alcohol, or drugs, or even someone who has a bad temper. These things, and others, can have the power over many people BUT these are not the only things that can have the power to harm our lives and the lives of those around us that we love and care about.

What about FOOD? We don’t normally look at food as being bad for us but we have abused food to the point that many people

in America are over weight and unhealthy. Would you admit that what we put in our mouth has the power over many of us? Regardless of what the **thing** is, if something has the power over us, then it has taken the place of the LORD in at least that area of our lives.

How can you tell if something has the power over you? Just try leaving it alone for a while!

Try what the WORD of GOD teaches us to do in the case of food. **Fast !!!** Fast for 24 hours. NO CHEATING! Drink water and leave the coffee, tea, soda pops and

other drinks alone and NO FOOD. It won't take long for you to realize that some **things** have more power over you than you ever thought possible.

Now start to examine all the other **things** that might have the power over you that you have never considered before.

You may be surprised to find many **things** have the power over you if you will just be honest with yourself. By the way, you will be a better person for exposing those **things** and correcting the problem.

Now let us have our final review of our study concerning **“ALL THINGS”**.

We have learned from Phil. 4:13 “I can do **all things** through Christ which strengtheneth me.”

It is through Christ’s WORD that we learn to examine **“all things”** and do them in an “expedient”, “edifying” way. We are also to remember Paul said, “I will not be brought under the power of any” of these **things**.

So to sum it up: 1. Check Christ WORD for the truth and

make sure you are walking by faith through Him. 2. Do **“all things”** expediently. 3. Do **“all Things”** in an edifying way. 4. Make sure whatever you do does NOT have the power over you.

If you do and keep these **things** you will walk by faith in the **“good”** will of God.

It’s another subject for another time but you do know that there are three levels in the will of God, don’t you?

Romans 12:2 says, “And be not conformed to this world: but

be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that **good**, and **acceptable**, and **perfect, will of God.**”

REMEMBER, REMEMBER, REMEMBER, REMEMBER, this tract only helps you to start your journey walking by faith in the “**good**” will of God. There are two more levels to attain but REMEMBER, you can’t go wrong choosing to do the “GOOD” will of God.

Do you desire more help? Here is your answer from God found in John 14:26, “But the Comforter, which is the Holy

Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you **all things**, and bring **all things** to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

I leave you with a final verse from God’s WORD:

II Timothy 2:7
“Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.”

Preacher / Teacher:
Odell “Buddy” Weeks

May We Serve You?

Please feel free to contact me should your Church need a Preacher / Teacher to fill the pulpit for a special occasion. It would be an honour for me to serve you should your Pastor be sick or need a vacation. I would also consider serving as your interim Pastor while you search for a new Pastor.

My wife, Dinah Bevis Weeks, and I have been in service for the Lord for over 44 years. It is our prayer to continue serving HIM in some capacity as long as we are able.

My health prevents me from serving in a full time capacity as a Pastor but I would be honoured to serve your Church in any way I am able.

You may contact me through the address listed below or the following e-mail: wot.ecc12.10@gmail.com. I will respond to your e-mail as quickly as possible if you will supply me with your contact information.

My service for the Lord has been as a Baptist Minister for over 44 years.
Preacher/Teacher: Odell "Buddy" Weeks

"Words of Truth"

Charity

I Cor. 13:8

"Charity never faileth ..."

Grace & Truth

*Jn. 1:17 "... grace & truth
came by Jesus Christ."*