MASTERING HUMAN ABILITY PART 3

Bro Don Johnson 4/30/2023 SM

II CORINTHIANS 12:1

» 1 † ¶ It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.

II CORINTHIANS 12:2

» 2 † I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.

<u>II CC</u>	<u> DRINTHIA</u>	NS 12:3	<u>3</u>
)	3	<i>†</i>	And I knew such a man,
<u>(wh</u>	ether in t	he bod	y, or out of the body, I cannot
<u>tell:</u>	God kno	<u>weth;)</u>	_
II CC	<u>DRINTHIA</u>	NS 12:4	<u>4</u>
»	4	<i>†</i>	How that he was caught up
<u>into</u>	paradise	e, and h	eard unspeakable words,
whi	ch it is no	t lawfu	l for a man to utter.
II CC	DRINTHIA	NC 12.1	
<u> </u>	<u> ZNIINI MIA</u>		_
>>	5	<i>†</i>	Of such an one will I glory:
<u>yet</u>	of myself	<u>I will n</u>	ot glory, but in mine
<u>infir</u>	mities.		
II CC	<u> DRINTHIA</u>	NS 12:6	<u>6</u>
)	6	†	For though I would desire to

glory, I shall not be a fool; for I will say the truth:
but now I forbear, lest any man should think of me
above that which he seeth me to be, or that he
heareth of me.

II CORINTHIANS 12:7

» 7 † And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

II CORINTHIANS 12:8

» 8 † For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

II CORINTHIANS 12:9

» 9 † And he said unto me, My

grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

II CORINTHIANS 12:10

» 10 † Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

II CORINTHIANS 12:11

» 11 † ¶ I am become a fool in glorying; ye have compelled me: for I ought to have been commended of you: for in nothing am I behind the very chiefest apostles, though I be nothing.

61-1119
PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY

We try to make our weaknesses excuses. We want to tell how big we are, how great we are. I think that's one of the things that I--God gave me the text for, was to get that out of our mind. See?

There's little things that we do. And that's what we come to church for, is to find out where our faults is, and the things that we might better ourselves by. If we come to church for any other--any other objective than this, I'm afraid we won't get too much out of coming to church. We must come to find our weaknesses, find our bad places and our--how--see how little we are, and put our trust in Somebody that's strong. But when we have weaknesses...

61-1119
PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY

There's so many of us 44 **((** likes to testify or likes to think that we're insufficient; and therefore, we make that an excuse, "I have no education; I have no ability; I'm unable to do this." And if you keep that up and do that in that way, keep going like that, then you can't 'mount to anything. But the very thing that we make excuses by our weaknesses, God uses that very thing to tackle the job with. See? He waits for us to get to that condition so that He can use us. We--we take the excuses and say, "Well, I--I--I'm can't do this, I'm insufficient. I--I can't do it." And God takes that very thing to do the job with. That's true.

That's the reason why that He--He chooses us, because we're in that condition. Now, that sounds

strange, but just a few minutes we'll get to the reason of it, if God being willing.

We--we find out, just as we've been reading, that weaknesses and rejections... And we find out that those people who are the weakest and the rejected by the outside world, is God's heroes, that conqueror up in the front line, takes those who are--are--feel themselves unworthy.

61-1119 PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY_

« 47 † There was a Methodist brother, three of them that comes to this church from up in Ohio, or northern Indiana. They said to me not long ago, said, "Brother Branham," said, "we just received the Holy Ghost, shall we now seek for gifts for our ministry?"

I said, "Don't do it. Let it alone."

And he turned and looked at me, said, "I just read a certain brother's book that told us after we received the Holy Ghost we should seek gifts for these to use this Holy Ghost."

I said, "And become a stuffed shirt." See?

61-1119
PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY_

« 49 † If you notice in the

Bible, it's always those who are trying to get away

from it that God uses. As long as a man's--wants to do something and thinks he's got enough ability he can put the job over, God could never use that man. Look at Moses running; look at Paul running, and the rest of them trying to get away from it.

I said, "Don't seek nothing. God's got anything for you He'll give it to you." See? "And just let Him--let Him take care of that."

I said, "Then you get some of these times like we got--have today that everybody's wanting to do this and do that and become some great person. Look what we got into with it. You see?"

Instead of trying to be great, we ought to be trying--trying to find out how little we can get. See? Then God can use us. I got several Scriptures written out here that I should be referring to, I suppose, but I... we... I probably won't have time to do it.

But we are...

61-1119

PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY_

W 52 † Notice that it takes the--the weakest and the rejected, and practically every hero God ever had on the front line was that type of person. A person that was rejected, a person that thought he was insufficient, a person that had no ability at all, then that person's just in good shape so God can start using them. That's right. When they feel like that they can't, they

haven't got nothing, that's when God can take a hold of them and do something with them. See?

When... But when we are thinking that we're able to do it, then God can't use us because we're wanting to do it ourselves.

61-1119
PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY_

« 53 † And then, the other side, we get these feelings and we think then that we're insufficient, and we don't want to do it; but then if we just listen to the call of God, that's the very thing that God wants us to get into, that kind of a shape so He can.

When we are insufficient ourselves, then we are subjects to yield to God's Spirit. As long as we think that we can do it, then we can't do it. But when we get to a place where we know we can't

do it, then we yield ourself to God and He does it.

So then if it's us trying to do it we'll fail, but if we'll just yield ourself to God then God can't fail.

There's only one thing that God cannot do, and that's fail. He can do anything else but fail. But He cannot fail.

So as long as we're trying in ourselves and depending on our own abilities, and so forth, why, we'll do nothing. But when we get to a place where we know we're nothing, then God can use us.

61-1119
PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY_

<u>w</u> 56 † The important thing,
one of the important things that we must master...
Now, remember this, and especially you young
preachers, and lay members alike. There's one

thing that we've got to master if we expect to fulfill God's desire in our life; that is,

we have to master the thought of human ability.

If we ever get to a spot where we think that we can do it with our own intelligence and our own abilities, we've got to master that in such a way that we can get rid of the thing and lay it aside so that God can use us. That's right.

61-1119
PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY

« 57 † And make a complete surrender. We cannot use one ability. We've got to make a complete surrender. And to come to God, you've got to surrender to Him both soul, body, and spirit. Everything that you are has to be

<u>surrendered to God in order that He can work His</u> <u>will in you and in me.</u>

Now, that's hard; I know; 'cause we're always
wanting to put our part in, something that we
know, you know, that we want to do it. We say,
"Well, I--I just know it should be done this way."
But as long as you're doing it that way it's going to
be wrong, and God will never use that effort.
Maybe with the help of the Lord we're going to get
into that in a few minutes and just show you how
God cannot use your ability.

PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_

JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY_

w seminary experiences too much placed upon education, too much placed upon relationship or

fellowships in denomination; we rest on one another; we rest upon men with ability.

The Bible said, "How can you have faith when you--when you are..." Let's see, how is that Scripture? "How can you have faith when you're preferring one another?"

When we are expecting, saying, "This guy, he's a great person. This is a great person; I'll just lean upon him," that displeases God when you do that.

We must lean upon God and God alone. We mustn't trust the ability of ourselves or any man.

We must completely yield to God.

61-1119
PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY_

« 62 † No ability, I don't care

whose it is, will never be usable in the sight of God. God has to get all of our abilities out of us

before He can achieve His purpose. If He's got something for us to do, and as long as we feel that we're doing a pretty good job out of it, then we'll never be able to be used of God.

Now, you say, "You're making an awful broad statement there, Brother Branham." And that--that is a broad one, but just look around and find out if whether it's right or not.

Look around today at all of our great achievement we think we've done, and where is Christianity in United States? Look at all of our churches and denominations, and our evangelists and healing campaigns, and everything else we've had, and what is it? Worse than it ever was in the beginning. It's worse off today than it ever was, because that we have tried to do it in human ability.

They gather together and make long prayers and go out here. And how the other day where they had so many, a hundred and fifty thousand, or something

like that, gathered together, both Protestant and Catholic, say some prayers, and pray some prayers, and make some prayers, and so forth. That just might as well not have gathered; it's not worth nothing in the sight of God.

Now, if I get critical, forgive me. See? But I--I've...

You've got to drive the thing down. See? You've got
to make it hit the nail.

61-1119
PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY

« 67 † And what good did it
do? Nothing. And it'll never be until every person
that professes to be a Christian will forget his own
ability and yield hisself to God. Then God can
achieve His purpose by sending, not a revival, but,
brother, what He needs to do first is send a killing
(That's right.) so we can revive. You have to die

before you can be born again, and you have to...

He needs a killing of ourselves. This Tabernacle
needs a killing, and me with it. All of us, we need a
killing so that we can be revived in a new life, a
new hold, a new hope, a new experience. We need
first a day of mourning.

61-1119 PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY

« 69 † We need a place of yielding to the Spirit and instead of so much depending upon schooling and upon our programs, and we--our campaigns and all that we have. We--we--we rely upon cooperation with so many different ministers to cooperate. We allow so many... "If we can't get so many, why, we won't do it. We won't go to the cities without that." And then, when we do that, we're making it in a great big machine that's got a carbon knock in it. See?

So we--we got to get away from that, that
human ability. We got to get to a place where
we can surrender our souls and lives, even to the
housewife, to the farmer, to the mechanic, or
whoever we are, we got to surrender completely
to God and know that "we are nothing." Then let
God start from there. Then He starts moving,
working. And that includes all of us, everyone.
That's the--the thing that we got to do.

61-1119
PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY

« 71 † History proves, does
now, proves (history does) that God always chose
the nobodies to become His somebodies. God
takes the person that's nothing.

Today, unless you got a good theological background, you'd better not even try to approach the city; you better not even try to approach a meeting. But if you've got great backgrounds, with great trainings and things behind you, you can go into any city and get a cooperation, have a great meeting. Well, it's not a meeting... It is a meeting, just like anything else, but what good does it do? See, you--you still... You get these little girls and boys coming up, chewing chewing gum, and going up to the altar, and women and men going up there just to say they went up to the altar, go into the room to instructions and come back out and be sprinkled or immersed, or whatever they are, and a--and a year from there...

61-1119
PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY

« 73 † One of our greatest
evangelists said, if he could know that he could save
ten percent of his conversions for one year, he
would be happy. When, then, when if he had a
thousand conversions, the next year there ought to
be--be ten thousand of them. See, we're missing

the goal; we're missing the purpose.

Some of us build it upon intellectual conception, "Oh," that, "this know-it-all, this man's a trained scholar. We should train our people and school them."

The next one bases it upon some sensation of--of movement, shaking, crying, shouting, dancing in the Spirit, or something, some emotional outward work. And that's just as bad as the education. If the devil can't get you on this side, he'll push you off that side.

But the thing of it is, is having nothing that you can depend on in your own self or anything that you can do, just a complete, total surrender of your weaknesses unto God, and say, "Here I am." Have nothing, no ability that you can trust in.

61-1119 PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY

Consider the--the apostles. Think about Peter, the fisherman, not enough education to write his own name; John, a ignorant and unlearned, those men. He bypassed the nobles, and the educated priests, and the celebrities of them days, the scholars, the church members, and got though--them people who thought they were somebody, and picked up those who were nobody and used them.

61-1119
PERFECT.STRENGTH.BY.PERFECT.WEAKNESS_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-8 N-1 SUNDAY

w 79 † Now, a somebody can become one of His people; God can use them if they're ready to forget that they are a somebody. If you're ready to forget that you're a somebody and become a nobody, then God can use you and make a somebody out of you. See? But you've got to forget that you're so important.

There's many of us; many of us do that in--in our lives. As soon as... Some people, as soon as they become Christians, they become arrogant, indifferent (That's right.) when they're just taking a vice versa the path. They're going backwards instead of forward. When... More you can get out of yourself, more room you've got for the Holy Spirit to come in.

- » II CORINTHIANS 10
 II CORINTHIANS 10:1
- » 1 † ¶ Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence am base among you, but being absent am bold toward you:

II CORINTHIANS 10:2

» 2 † But I beseech you, that I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence, wherewith I think to be bold against some, which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh.

II CORINTHIANS 10:3

» 3 † For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

II CORINTHIANS 10:4

» 4 † (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

II CORINTHIANS 10:5

» 5 † Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

II CORINTHIANS 10:6

» 6 † And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

II CORINTHIANS 10:7

» 7 † ¶ Do ye look on things after the outward appearance? If any man trust to himself that he is Christ's, let him of himself think this again, that, as he is Christ's, even so are we Christ's.

II CORINTHIANS 10:8

» 8 † For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed:

II CORINTHIANS 10:9

» 9 † That I may not seem as if I would terrify you by letters.

II CORINTHIANS 10:10

» 10 † For his letters, say they, are weighty and powerful; but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible.

II CORINTHIANS 10:11

» 11 † Let such an one think this,

that, such as we are in word by letters when we are absent, such will we be also in deed when we are present.

II CORINTHIANS 10:12

» 12 † ¶ For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

64-0726M RECOGNIZING.YOUR.DAY.AND.ITS.MESSAGE_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-5 N-1 SUNDAY

177 Reason Russia come to herself, she had to. Just like Israel had to get in the homeland. God had to drive

Israel back to the homeland, for the Trumpets. And so did God have to drive Russia up there, in communism, to do exactly what's been prophesied she would do.

64-0726M RECOGNIZING.YOUR.DAY.AND.ITS.MESSAGE_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-5 N-1 SUNDAY

Man and his six senses had just come along, the horse and buggy, trusting God. In the last seventy-five years, he quit trusting God. When they signed the Constitution of this United States, they put God in everything they did. Now they don't even have a meeting, and they never even name His Name. That's right. They depend on their loftiness of their science, they, their cunningness of their science, or the lewd bunch. That's exactly right. The whole world is swallowed up in ignorance of the Bible. The bi-... whole world has turned from God.

But, just think, right out of the midst of all that, and the church denominations and all their seminary lewdness and everything, God has took His prophets' Word and

chopped out a Bride that will believe. Said He would do it. He's hewed from that thing what He promised He would do.

They depend on their human intelligence, their human science, and so forth; left God out, Whom he once trusted. The United States has left God out. They even turned Him out of school, for our little children can't even hear about Him. They turned Him out of school. Now they're trying to turn Him off the dollars, "In God we trust." They're going to turn it out of the pledge allegiance to the flag, "One nation under God." They're going to turn that out.

64-0726M

<u>Karange of the See, they've went to their own feelings and their own senses. Because, in the last seventy-five years, he hasn't changed a bit in his senses, he's still the same man God created him in the beginning.</u>

But, in this last days, can't you recognize where we are?

And the church has turned, from God, to that, to the seminary and experience, and so forth, instead of the Word. Don't even recognize Him in their meetings, in their schools, or nothing, anymore.

181 Israel, in the past twenty-five years, has recognized something has brought them to the homeland, as was promised. They don't know how it was ever done. They suffered like everything, martyrdom, under them Trumpets, but they're in their homeland. They don't know why.

64-0726M

RECOGNIZING.YOUR.DAY.AND.ITS.MESSAGE

JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-5 N-1 SUNDAY

Why did the nations wake up? Why has man been able to achieve? When scientists, three hundred years ago, a French scientist rolled a ball at a certain speed across the earth, and proved, by scientific research, "If a man ever made the terrific speed of thirty miles an hour,

<u>his weight, according to the weight of the ball." Now</u>
<u>he's going seventeen thousand miles an hour, see, still</u>
<u>trying to climb on. He just recognized that, lately. Why?</u>
Has to be that way.

Jesus Christ. No matter what anybody said, they stayed right with that Word, the message of the hour; Luther, Wesley, and down through there. And now they've turned back to traditions. Why has it done it?

recognized that they're in the homeland for something.

It was prophesied they'd have to be gathered again;

Hosea said so. We read it a while ago. God help us to understand it! All right.

64-0726M RECOGNIZING.YOUR.DAY.AND.ITS.MESSAGE_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-5 N-1 SUNDAY_

<u>Karange 185</u>
<u>At the same time, the Bride has recognized the evening Light, just begin to the same time.</u>

recognize. The hungry pentecostals have begin to recognize that them organizations hasn't got any things they was looking for, they're so twisted and tore up.

See, it's the time of recognition, recognition. You've got to recognize.

The world has recognized. The nations has recognized.

Science has recognized. The devil has recognized it's the time that he can wreck women, wreck the church, wreck the people. He's recognized it.

And God has recognized that there is a people on earth that He predestinated to Life. He recognized this is the time to send His Message. He's did it. The people has recognized It, the Bride time has realized the evening Light.

186 If Sodom had have recognized her days, when she seen those messengers come down there, like Billy Graham and Oral Roberts!

65-1212 COMMUNION_ TUCSON.AZ V-8 N-4 SUNDAY_

« 44 † Like in the Book here, and the spot there we was talking about the--the two Books being One, the Book of Life. The first Book of life coming up, was when you were born, that was your natural birth. See? But then one time, way back down in there, there was a little grain of Life as I was explaining to some of the young sisters at the house this afternoon. See, there's a little grain of Life laying there, that you wonder, "Where did It come from? What--what these strange things?"

45 I was saying this, taking for myself, like you was going to say, "William Branham, well, forty years ago, the William Branham, it isn't the same one tonight." If somebody back there would say, "William Branham, he was a rank rascal," see, because I was born of Charles and Ella Branham. In their nature I was a sinner, I came to the world, a

liar, and all the habits of the world laid right in me.

But down in there, too, was another Nature

present, see, predestinated, was in there by God.

In this same body, see, two natures in there.

46 Well, I only catered to one. As it growed, I gooed as a baby, "Dad-da." First thing you know, I become a liar, become everything else that's a sinner, because I raised up that way. But down in there was a little speck of Life all the time.

65-1212 COMMUNION_ TUCSON.AZ V-8 N-4 SUNDAY_

" 47 † I used to remember, as a little boy... (I hope I'm not holding you too long. But knowing...) Sitting out in the... on--on the creek bank, and I'd sit there and look around at nighttime. Pop and mom, they're gone on now to their rest. And them days they were sinners, there was no Christianity in our homes at all. And, oh, my,

drinking, and parties, and carrying on; it made me sick, I'd take my--my lantern and my dog and go to the woods, to stay all night. In the wintertime I'd hunt till the party was over, maybe daylight in the morning. Come home, wouldn't be over, I've laid on top of a shed and sleep, waiting for daylight to break.

Then I'd think of how that times, then being out there in the summertime, get my sticks and put them down for a little windbreak, where if it rained; lay there and have the poles sticking in the water, fishing; my old coon dog laying there. I'd say, "Looky here. You know, last winter I camped right here one night, I built a fire right here when I was waiting for my old dog here to tree, and I had a fire here. It was froze five inches deep in the ground. But, little flower, where did you come from?" See? "Well, and where'd you come from? Who come out here and planted you? And what hothouse did they bring you out of? Or--or what about it, where'd you come

from?" See? That little flower, I'd say, "Why, it was froze, and everything, and I built a fire on top here. Besides the freezing element, there was a heat element laying here on a big old log where I burned you. And yet here you are, and you're alive.
Where'd you come from?"

65-1212 COMMUNION_ TUCSON.AZ V-8 N-4 SUNDAY_

« 49 † What was it? There was another William Branham. See? A little spot of Eternal Life down there, from the--the genes of God, the Word of God that was placed in there. Each one of you can think of similar things. See, It was working.

Then look up to the trees, and I think,

"Leaf, I seen you fall off last year, and why are you
back there again? Where'd you come from? What
brought you here?" See, It was that Eternal Life

working in the body.

- Now, then one day as I walked on, that Voice talking, "Don't never smoke, drink, so forth." And the young fellows and all got older. See, there was Something moving.
- But yet all at once I looked up, and I said,
 "I'm not the son of Charles and Ella Branham.
 There's Something calling." Like my little eagle,
 "I'm not a chicken. There's Something up yonder,
 somewhere. O Great Jehovah, Whoever You are,
 open up! I want to come home. There's Something
 in me, calling."
- Then I was born again. That little Life was laying there, the life of water was poured upon It, then It begin to grow. Now, that old life was forgiven, put in the sea of God's forgetfulness, to never be remembered against me no more. See? Now we stand justified (as though we never had sinned) in the Presence of God.

65-1212 COMMUNION_ TUCSON.AZ V-8 N-4 SUNDAY

Then when we come to the Lord's table, we must come in reverence, love and respect, of "Look where we would have been if it hadn't been for Him." See? Look where it would've...

Therefore, Paul, I think, in saying this,
"Wherefore, when ye come together to eat, tarry
one for the other." That is, other words, just wait a
few minutes, pray, check yourself out. And if you
know a brother is in there, just about to do
something that's wrong, or something, and you
pray for him, too. See? See, "tarry one the other,"
wait just a minute, pray. If there's any feelings
between you or something, don't--don't do it--don't
do it, go make that right first. See? Go straighten
that up first, because they want to come here just
as pure as we can be, and our thoughts of one

another and to God, and to each other, and then we come in fellowship around the table of the Lord. See?