

The God That Put His Foot Down

Personal Story from Author: When I first arrived in Ghana, I was thirty-four. A problem came up in the church, and the Lord directed that I consult several people for advice. One was an elderly prayer warrior, Sister Juliana Monnie. I met her at the church and explained the situation. She heavily stomped her foot on the ground, and said, "Reverend, you may think that you are a small boy, but sometimes you have to put your foot down!"

There are times when God puts His foot down. At other times that He enables us to our foot down. "And it came to pass, when they brought those kings unto Joshua, that Joshua called for all the men of Israel, and said unto the captains of the men of war which went with him, Come near, put your feet upon the necks of these kings, And they came near, and put their feet upon the necks of them. And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage, for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight." (Joshua 10:24-25)

The armies had been defeated and their five kings had hidden in a cave. They were captured and brought to "Joshua" (the Hebrew equivalent to the name of "Jesus" in the New Testament). Joshua is an Old Testament type of Jesus whose job was to bring "many sons unto glory." (Hebrews 2:10) Tradition dictated that those captured lie down on the ground, and that the victor would place his foot upon their necks in order to symbolize the victory. In this case, Joshua called for his captains to place their feet upon the necks of the Canaanite kings. He was transferring the authority to his captains much like Jesus has done to us.

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed: it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15). Satan was cursed to go on his belly. Today, we would say that he was to "bite the dust." One day the Messiah would give a deadly blow to Satan's head. The best the serpent could do would be to nip his heel.

"And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it" (Colossians 2:15).

In the Ancient Near East defeated enemies laid face down flat before the conquering king. They formed little more than a footstool for his throne.

“For David himself, speaking under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, said, 'The LORD said to my LORD, Sit in honor at my right hand until I humble your enemies beneath your feet' “ (Mark 12:36, *NLT*).

“And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ (the Messiah) be with you” (Romans 16:20, *AMP*).

There are five times that God advises for us to put our foot down.

PUT YOUR FOOT DOWN ON YOUR ENEMY, THE DEVIL

“If you make the LORD your refuge, if you make the Most High your shelter, no evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your dwelling. For he orders his angels to protect you wherever you go. They will hold you with their hands to keep you from striking your foot on a stone. You will trample down lions and poisonous snakes; you will crush fierce lions and serpents under your feet!” (Psalms 91:9-13, *NLT*).

“Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you” (Luke 10:19).

PUT YOUR FOOT DOWN IN POSSESSING THE LAND

“Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses” (Joshua 1:3).

“And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it” (Numbers 13:30).

“And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, How long are ye slack to go to possess the land, which the LORD God of your fathers hath given you?” (Joshua 18:3).

PUT YOUR FOOT DOWN IN PREACHING THE WORD

“And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” (Romans 10:15).

“And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace” (Ephesians 6:15).

“I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,’ the LORD replied.’ **Now get up and stand on your feet.** I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you. I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.” (Acts 26:15-18, *NIV*).

- Preach the truth
- Preach it without compromise.

PUT YOUR FOOT DOWN IN PRAYER AND FASTING

“And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee. And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me” (Ezekiel 2:1-2).

“And the hand of the LORD was there upon me; and he said unto me, Arise, go forth into the plain, and I will there talk with thee. Then I arose, and went forth into the plain: and, behold, the glory of the LORD stood there, as the glory which I saw by the river of Chebar: and I fell on my face. Then the spirit entered into me, and set me upon my feet, and spake with me, and said unto me, Go, shut thyself within thine house” (Ezekiel 3:22-24).

PUT YOUR FOOT DOWN IN CLAIMING YOUR HEALING

“And there they preached the gospel. And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked” (Acts 14:7-10).

“Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with

them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. And all the people saw him walking and praising God” (Acts 3:6-9).

The lady with the issue of blood for twelve years had to put her foot down and press through to Jesus.