

# **BECOMING A STRONGER CHRISTIAN**

## **Part 4: Building And Draining (2)**

### **SIGNS OF A STRONG CHURCH AND STRONG CHRISTIANS (Acts 9:31 NKJV)**

- ❖ Peace
  - ◆ Peace as a result of our positional relationship with God
    - And peace as a result of walking in that relationship
- ❖ Edified - built up (**Proverbs 4:20-22 NKJV**)
  - ◆ God's word in our heart results in spiritual life
    - The challenge is keeping our focus there - keeping His word as central
  - ◆ Jesus placed major importance on God's word
    - He used it to resist Satanic temptations
    - He indicated it is the first step to freedom (**John 8:31-32 NKJV**)
    - His words are spiritual life to us (**John 6:63 NKJV**)
    - That His words are eternal (**Matthew 24:35 NKJV**)
- ❖ Walking in the fear of God
  - ◆ Fear is a reverential respect for God
    - Would also involve a respect for God and His things (**Acts 5:38-39 NKJV**)
    - Where wisdom begins (**Proverbs 9:10 NKJV**)
- ❖ Comfort of the Holy Spirit
  - ◆ His ability to help is greatly underestimated
  - ◆ Wisdom is recognizing His role in strengthening your walk (**John 14:26 NKJV**)

### **THINGS THAT DRAIN STRENGTH**

- ❖ The wrong focus - Caleb's commentary (**Joshua 14:7-9 NKJV**)
  - ◆ The ten spies brought back a negative report (**Numbers 13:31-33 NKJV**)
  - ◆ Attention to those words had a negative effect (**Numbers 14:1-3 NKJV**)
  - ◆ Caleb brought what was in his heart (**Numbers 14:7-9 NKJV**)
  - ◆ Focusing on the negatives and leaving God out - causes heart melt
    - Steals our courage and strength (**Romans 8:6 NKJV**)