

Bible Way Church

OF ATLANTA ROAD

March 20, 2007

“EMPOWERED TO RELEASE”

Deuteronomy 12:1 (AMP)

Philippians 3:13 (NKJV)

Pastor, Darrell Jackson, Sr.

- Tonight we continue to examine what we, as believers, are empowered to do by the Lord.
- We will examine how we are empowered by God to release some things in our lives.
- Perhaps the greatest struggles we face are the struggles we have within ourselves.
- One of those struggles is the struggle to release the things that have been holding us down; things that have stood between our divine destiny and ourselves.
- There are also people in our lives who have stood between our destiny and ourselves.
- I once read that there are some people we have to love and release.
- The word, *release*, is defined simply as “to let go, or to set free”.
- God understands the importance of the power of letting go.
- Because of this, He instructed the children of Israel, through Moses, that at the end of every seven years they should grant a release.
- The Lord is saying to them that they should forgive, forget, and move on.
- Why after seven years? The number seven represented completion and spiritual perfection.
- The Lord was telling them that in order for their lives to be complete they must learn to release some things.
- It is important to note that these words were given to the children of Israel while they were going through the wilderness, which represented transition.
- Perhaps one of the reasons so many of them died in the wilderness was because they just could not release some things they should have.
- Philippians 3:13 is a witness and example of the power to release.

- In this passage, Paul shares his testimony with the Philippians concerning his achievements as well as his struggles.
- In verse 8, Paul writes, "I have suffered the loss of all things."
- Throughout Paul's ministry, he not only had to do battle with the strategy of the adversary, but he also had to deal with the animosity of his brothers of the Gospel.
- Paul encountered many ups and downs in both his personal life as well as his ministry.
- However, in this Epistle to the Philippians, Paul told them how he dealt with those things in his life.
- He writes in verse 13 "Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before..."
- Paul realized that he had to release some things, and he knew that God had empowered him to do so.
- Finally, after the release comes the press.
- Paul writes in verse 14 "I press ..."
- It is important for us to understand that we cannot go forward until we release what is behind us.
- Release those things that are standing between our divine destiny and us.
- Before the end of this seventh year, release some things, or some people.
- You have been empowered to do so.