

# The Terre Haute

# SPEAKER

*“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).*

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## ABOUNDING IN EVERYTHING

*J.P. Edwards*

*“But as ye abound in everything, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all earnestness, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also” (2 Cor. 8:7).*

Paul, in an effort to stimulate the Corinthian Christians to liberal giving, compliments them on their abundance of things that pertain to spiritual matters.

The Corinthian Christians were enriched in everything. Yet, Paul enumerates some of the things in which they excelled.

**FAITH.** The Corinthians abounded in a firm persuasion and a conviction based upon God’s word. They believed in God and things that pertained to God. This faith involves one in a personal surrender to God (Jn. 1:12), and brings about eternal life (Jn. 3:16, 36). This surrender was illustrated by the giving of the Macedonian Christians (2 Cor. 8:5).

**UTTERANCE.** The Corinthians excelled in speaking forth God’s word. Paul prayed that utterance would be given him that he might make known the mystery of the

gospel of Christ (Eph. 6:19).

**KNOWLEDGE.** As the Corinthians abounded in everything, they abounded in an investigation of spiritual matters. Jesus said that a knowledge of the truth is able to make one free from sin (Jn. 8:32). A lack of knowledge brings one to destruction (Hos. 4:6).

**EARNESTNESS.** Earnestness, also translated diligence, means haste and speed in zeal. These Christians had an abundance of zeal for God’s word (2 Cor. 7:11). The people of God are to be zealous (Titus 2:14).

**LOVE.** A love that sought the welfare of all and worked no ill to any was the kind of love the Corinthians possessed. This is the same kind of love God had for man in sending His Son (Jn. 3:16). Paul told these Christians in his first letter to “*Let all that ye do be done in love*” (1 Cor. 16:14). These Christians did just that as they abounded in love.

The abundance these Christians had was to be extended to helping the needy disciples of Judea (2 Cor. 8:1-5). Paul said, “*...see that ye abound in this grace also*” (2 Cor. 8:7). He knew as they abounded in everything they would abound in this grace also.

The example of the Corinthians abounding ought to stimulate us to abounding and excelling in all spiritual matters.

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## SOME CRIES IN MATTHEW 8

*Robert Jackson*

Did you ever read the 8th chapter of Matthew and just take a note of some of the things which people cried? I realize that space will not permit us to take note of all the cries but let us observe a few of them at this time.

**THE CRY OF MISERY.** Read verse 2, “*And, behold there came a leper and worshiped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.*” This is the cry of a man that was sick. How often do we hear this same cry among the people of our day. Many are sick with disease of the body. There are many others who are sick in sin. This is indeed a miserable cry.

**THE CRY OF COMPASSION.** Secondly, there is the cry of compassion as we read in the 5th and 6th verses of this chapter. In this cry we see one person having compassion for another. He went to the Lord on behalf of his servant that was sick. There is so much of the

disease of the body and the soul in our day that I fail to see why there is not the cry of compassion. When our hearts are filled with compassion we will do all we can to help others.

**THE CRY OF FAITH.** One must not overlook the great cry of faith in the eighth verse of this great chapter. He said just speak the word only, and my servant will be healed. This is the kind of faith that is needed in our day. Is this the kind of faith you have?

**THE CRY OF FEAR.** We must not overlook the cry of fear as we read verse 25. They realized they could perish. There was much fear in their hearts. They cried out for the Lord to save them.

**THE CRY OF REJECTION.** It is sad to read the words where they rejected the Lord. Read verse 34 and hear them as they say, “depart.”

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**CONTINUE  
FOLLOWING  
THE LORD**  
*John Edwards*

As Samuel reasoned with the people of the Lord in 1 Samuel 12:14-15, he appealed to them to continue following the Lord.

**FEAR THE LORD.** “*If ye will fear the Lord...*” (v. 14) and “*Only fear the Lord...*” (v. 24) was his plea. In Deuteronomy 6, Israel was exhorted to fear the Lord: “*That thou mightest fear the Lord thy God*” (v. 2). “*Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God*” (v. 13). “*...to fear the Lord our God*” (v. 24). This is something required by the Lord (Dt. 10:12). Fearing the Lord is learned from reading the Lord’s law (Dt. 17:19; 31:12-13). “*That all the people of the earth might know the hand of the Lord, that it is mighty: that ye might fear the Lord your God for ever*” (Josh. 4:24).

**SERVE HIM.** Samuel continued, “*and serve him*” (v. 14), “*in truth with all your heart*” (v. 24). This involves a choice (Josh. 24:15). Deuteronomy 10:10 says “*...to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.*” Joshua exhorted, “*...serve him in sincerity and in truth*” (Josh.

24:14).

**OBEY HIS VOICE.** “*...and obey his voice*” were the words the aged man of God (v. 14). We must not make the fatal mistake of Pharaoh who said, “*Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice...?*” (Ex. 5:2). God holds out great blessings to those who obey His voice (Ex. 19:5; Dt. 11:27-28).

**REBEL NOT.** Samuel pleaded, “*and not rebel against the commandment of the Lord*” (v. 14). This was the cry of Joshua and Caleb before him: “*Only rebel not ye against the Lord...*” (Num. 14:9). Sadly, time and again, the children of Israel rebelled against the God of heaven (Num. 20:24; 27:14; Dt. 1:26, 43; 9:23; Neh. 9:26; Ps. 107:11; Is. 1:2; 30:1, 9; Jer. 5:23)!

To continue following the Lord is to fear Him, serve Him, obey His voice and not rebel against the commandment of the Lord. Let us continue! (Jn. 8:31; 15:9; Acts 13:43; 14:22; Rom. 11:22; Col. 1:23; 4:2; 1 Tim. 4:16; 2 Tim. 3:14). Never quit following the Lord!

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