

Some Concerns Regarding Statements in the Book “Rees Howells: Intercessor”

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1) Rees Howells: Intercessor - Note for Page 8 (Section 02 -- TWO SHOCKS) - A misunderstanding of Hebrews 12:1-2.

Rees Howells: Intercessor

(PDF): <http://www.inspirationalchristians.org/downloads/rees-howells-intercessor-ebook.pdf>

- This is a good book with powerful scripture references and inspiring examples from the life of a man who desired to serve God and do God's best will for his life. He saw miracles happen in answer to prayer and the course of World War 2 changed by way of his and others' prayers. This is an inspiring book to read and seek God through, but it does have some errors, as most Christian books do.
- There are more errors than I have been able to write about. So, we Christians need to be Bereans ([Acts 17:10-11](#)). I myself have been misled at times, so I offer this article with a desire to point out why God

is a loving, caring, compassionate, patient, gracious, longsuffering Father.

Page 8 contains a misunderstanding of [Hebrews 12:1-2](#).

The author of this book about the life of Rees Howells was mistaken concerning [Hebrews 12:1-2](#). He was saying, on page 8 of the [PDF](#), that we actually are surrounded by the spirits of people such as Moses and Elijah, but that is not what Hebrews 12 is teaching. This verse is speaking figuratively about how the believers who have gone up to Heaven have lived. They lived by faith and overcome the enemy through God's power. Their lives are an inspiration to us and a witness of God's power working through our faith.

This is **not** saying they actually are on earth observing us. The previous chapter in Hebrews, Hebrews 11, was speaking of the way past believers lived and trusted in God. Their lives were a witness of God's power manifested as they put their faith in God. This is to encourage us here on this earth to trust God in the same way they trusted in God. That is their witness, which is found in the scripture. But, this was a minor point I wished to bring your attention to.

See Hebrews chapters 11 and 12. Hebrews 11 gives the context for Hebrews 12:1-2.

Hebrews 11:6-8

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

Hebrews 11:23-29

23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

28 Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

29 By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

Hebrews 12:1-2

1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

2) Rees Howells: Intercessor - Note for Page 18 (Section 05 -- THE HOLY GHOST ...) - A Wrong View of the Holy Spirit

Regarding Page 18 (4th paragraph from the top) in the above [PDF](#) file:

We know that Satan can appear as an angel of light ([2 Corinthians 11:14](#)). We also know that he is the father of lies ([John 8:44](#)) who devises ways to deceive and ensnare us ([Ephesians 6:10-11](#)). So, is it any wonder if the devil can prey on our weaknesses to deceive us about spiritual things? That is why we need to love Abba God, rest in God ([Isaiah 30:15](#)), meditate on God's Word ([Psalm 1:1-3](#)), and look to God for help to obey it (keeping [Galatians 3](#) in mind).

In pages 16-18 in *Rees Howells: Intercessor*, Rees was being led by God to fully surrender himself to God. This was of God to fully surrender because Jesus Christ said in [Luke 9:23-24](#): "[23] And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. [24] For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it."

But, on page 18, Rees hears a voice telling him, in essence, that if he doesn't fully surrender to God and choose to only do God's will by **6 o'clock that night**, and not a minute past 6, then Rees would **never** have another chance to choose to fully surrender his will to God. **This is not biblical** because God is gracious and longsuffering (patiently enduring).

[Psalm 86:5](#) says: "***For thou, LORD, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.***"

[Exodus 34:6](#) says: "And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, **merciful** and **gracious**, **longsuffering**, and abundant in **goodness** and **truth**,"

[Isaiah 41:10](#) says: "*Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I*

am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Later, Rees was led to take a fast so he could pray against the enemy, who was trying to disrupt a certain Christian convention. The temptation to eat lunch was strong when his mother offered it and he gave in and had the lunch even though God had called him to do fasting that particular day. Once he was done eating, he felt guilty and fearful.

1 John 1:9 says: *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

God doesn't want us to kick ourselves for sin. He just wants us to confess it and forsake it, and move on. But, Rees walked for miles cursing his old nature for breaking the fast. He also wept and wrongfully felt that God wouldn't allow him back into His Presence (close fellowship with God). He needed to read [Jeremiah 31:3](#) -- *"The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."*

Then, on page 26 (in the middle of the page), Rees heard a voice tell him that he would be forgiven but that he had to be "*punished*" for eating when he was asked to fast. His punishment was that he had to hold up his hands and pray from 6 PM to 9 PM. This contradicts 1 John 1:9, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Galatians 3:13, 1 Peter 3:18, Romans 8:1, 1 John 3:5, Romans 3:28, Romans 3:21-31, [Romans 4:1-8](#), The Parable of the Prodigal Son ([Luke 15:11-32](#)), and other scriptures. (Righteousness is imputed to us **without** works. [Romans 4:6-7](#).)

God does **not** punish His children. Look at the Parable of the Prodigal Son in [Luke 15:11-32](#). Also, Jesus took the penalty for our sins upon himself (2 Corinthians 5:21). Don't misunderstand chastisement or correction. Abba God corrects His children when they are in error, so that they will realize they need to repent from sin (Hebrews 12:5-10), and so that they can turn back to God and partake of His holiness ([Hebrews 12:10](#)). When they confess their sin and repent, they are forgiven. There is no punishment or penalty for their sin because Jesus took the penalty for our sins upon Himself. If we confess our sins, Abba God forgives us. Again, God does **not** make us work for Him, nor receive any punishment for our sins, because Jesus took that punishment upon Himself.

2 Corinthians 5:21 says: *"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."*

[Note: Justified means that we are declared righteous "just as if I never sinned".]

Romans 3:21-31

21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith.

28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

29 Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also:

30 Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.

31 Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.

God's Word also says how God is a compassionate, patient, kind, loving Father who desires us to have close fellowship and communion with Him. See [Exodus 34:6](#), [Psalm 86:5](#), [Proverbs 17:17](#), [Proverbs 18:24 \(b.\)](#), [1 Corinthians 1:9](#), [2 Corinthians 1:2-3](#), [John 17:22-23](#), [Jeremiah 31:3](#), [Psalm 103:8 and 103:13](#), [1 John 1:9](#), [Jeremiah 31:3](#), [1 John 1:6-7](#), [Isaiah 46:3-4](#), [Isaiah 41:10](#), [Isaiah 43](#), [1 John 1:3](#), [Isaiah 49:10-16](#), [1 John 4:16-18](#), [Zephaniah 3:17](#), and so on.

Look at the Parable of the Prodigal Son in [Luke 15:11-32](#) to see how God treats those who repent. He doesn't punish them. He doesn't threaten them. Rather, God welcomes them home with open arms and has a celebration.

[Zephaniah 3:17](#) tells how God greatly rejoices over us with great joy and love.

[Zephaniah 3:17](#) says: "The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing."

1 Corinthians 1:9 says: "[9] God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord."

1 John 1:3 says: "[3] That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ."

Psalm 103:13 says: "[13] Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him."

Psalm 103:8 says: "[8] The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy."

2 Corinthians 1:2-3 says: "[2] Grace be to you and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. [3] Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;"

In [John 17:22-23](#) Jesus Christ says this to His Father: "[22] And the glory which **thou** gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as **we** are one: [23] I in them, and **thou** in me, that they may be made perfect

in one; and that the world may know that **thou** hast sent me, and hast loved them, as **thou** hast loved me."

In the last part of verse 23, Jesus said in essence that God the Father loves us (who He created) in the same way that God the Father loves Jesus (God the Son). And, Abba God speaks in His Word of loving others as we would love ourselves ([Leviticus 19:18](#)), because God loves us the way He loves Himself.

In [Jeremiah 31:3](#), Abba God says through the writer that God loves us with everlasting love and has drawn us to Himself with His *lovingkindness*.

Jeremiah 31:3: *"The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."*

Isaiah 43 is a very encouraging scripture passage. Regarding verse 3, the Ethiopians, Egyptians, and people of Seba at that time in history were enemies of Israel. But, God knew that many of them would later turn to him.

Pay attention to how God encourages us by saying He created us, redeemed us, called us by name, said we are His, promised to always be with us no matter what, said He is our Savior, said we are precious in His sight, that He loves us, that we should not fear because He is with us, and He will bring us to Him.

Isaiah 43:1-5

1 But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

2 When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

3 For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee.

4 Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life.

5 Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west;

3) Subject: God Does Not Speak Harsh or Strongly like How Rees Howells Sometimes Heard.

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The paragraphs we are looking at are in Chapter 5, on page 18 (in the PDF file). They begin with this sentence: *'That night a friend said to him, "If some of us come over after the meeting..."*

In Chapter 5, a friend asked Rees about his position in Christ. Very soon after that question, a voice began speaking to Rees Howells that did not match with God's loving, compassionate, gentle nature, which He has for His children.

(One thing to note, Rees Howells admitted that while he was a boy, his school teacher was the strictest man he ever met. He wrongfully believed the Holy Spirit was much stricter. The Holy Spirit is not 'strict' at all. He is love. See [this article](#) about Chapter 14, page 46 in the [PDF file](#). The Holy Spirit is the Comforter to believers [[John 14](#)].

He is gracious, but He is also a caring and responsible Father, who will correct His children when they are truly in error. [Hebrews 12:5-13](#). That shows He wants what's best for us. But, He deals with us in love, gentleness, and compassion. [Psalm 86:15](#) says: "But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.")

The voice asked Rees how he could tell his friends about his position in Christ if Rees was supposedly not living as an overcomer. The truth is that all Christians, in Christ, are more than conquerors. If you read the Chapter 5 and

the chapters before that, you can see how Rees desired to do God's will. So, he was an overcomer ([Romans 8:37](#)).

But, the voice Rees heard told him that he wasn't an overcomer yet and that Rees had to give the spirit his decision by a certain set time that night (6 O'clock). The voice threatened him that if he didn't make up his decision by that exact time, and not a minute past it, then Rees would supposedly never be able to get another chance to choose to surrender himself to God and God's purposes. This is a complete lie and a threat. It is not biblical or in agreement with what the Bible teaches about the God, whose Name is love ([1 John 4:16](#)).

- **God is longsuffering, patient, loving, kind, full of compassion, and full of mercy.**

Psalm 86:5 says: ***"For thou, LORD, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee."***

Exodus 34:6 says: *"And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, **merciful** and **gracious**, **longsuffering**, and abundant in **goodness** and **truth**,"*

- **God does not cause us to fear. He takes our fears and burdens from us (Psalm 55:22, Psalm 62:8).**

Isaiah 41:10 says: *"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."*

- The fruit of the Holy Spirit (which includes God's own personality) include
"...love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance:..."

Ephesians 5:22-24 says: *"[22] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,*

23. Meekness, temperance: *against such there is no law. 24. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts."*

There are other times when a voice spoke to Rees in a stern or intimidating way that was unbiblical. As Christians, we must test the voice we hear to see if it really is God or not ([1 John 4:1-4](#), [Acts 17:10-11](#)). Looking to God for guidance, we can read His Word and search the scriptures to see if something is of God or not ([John 5:39](#)).

Now, we need to mention that Rees Howells *did* desire God and desire fellowship with God, and Rees *did* have close fellowship with God. He was blessed for seeking God's best will and doing it. God provided Rees with close, deep fellowship with Him. God also provided Rees with a wife, other friends, a ministry, money he needed, and money for purchasing expensive properties for ministry purposes. So, God did bless Rees for serving Him.