

# Easter Impact – 3

*I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that  
Christ gives me.  
Philippians 4:13*

(NOTE: as compared with English, Greek is a profoundly rich language.)

Easter means Energy!

This power produces an **ATTITUDE**. “*I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me.*” Herein Paul employs two Greek words for *power*, the first of which is **ισχυω**. The root of this word envisions military action: a combative, confrontive force that faces resistance to bring about victory (success). Notes three elements: 1) resistance 2) combative force and 3) success. The second Greek word is **ἐνδυναμώω**, meaning to be empowered to face resistance, the result of which is success.

✘ OK, enough Greek. Here’s an illustration. In World War II the goal (success) was to overthrow Hitler in Berlin. Starting on the shores of Normandy, the allied troops encountered German resistance, requiring a fierce force of military action. Though history tends to emphasize the “*Big Battles*”: Bulge, Midway, Stalingrad, Iwo Jima, Bataan and Caen to name but a few, there was constant resistance all the way to Berlin. Finally, throughout the campaign the allied forces were empowered with equipment, both old and new. However, the primary weapon was the will of the human spirit!

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In following Jesus we will encounter **resistance**. In Ephesians 6 Paul succinctly delineates our situation. “*Finally, receive your power from the Lord and from his mighty strength. Put on all the armor that God supplies. In this way, you will be able*

*to successfully stand against the devil's strategies."* This is the subject of Paul Bunyan's classic work, *Pilgrim's Progress*.

So, here's the picture. Your Enemy resists God's purposes for your life. Via various methods the Monster of Life intends your failure as a disciple of Jesus. Though the resistance is intense, possibly involving grave wounds, your success (the Creator's design for YOU) is guaranteed **IF** you will recognize and draw upon the power that's in you. Remember! This inherent power is nothing less than that which the Father released in raising Jesus from the dead.

So, Paul writes: *"I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me."* Now, **that's ATTITUDE!**