

(Sang - Are Ye Able Saith the Master)

"We are able." "I can do." I would like to look at a number of aspects of this statement of Paul.

1. Most people greatly underestimate what they can do. The tendency of most of us is to go from one extreme to the other. Remember Moses when he was in Egypt and saw how the Israelites were being oppressed, he stepped out to put an end to it. He saw an Egyptian oppressing an Israelite and he killed him, and hid his body. When the word got around what he had done he fled. He thought at first, I can do anything. He stepped out far beyond his situation and failed. He went into the wilderness and stayed there 40 yrs. After 40 yrs. the Lord called Moses and said, Moses I want you to go into Egypt and speak to Pharaoh. Moses said, I can't speak. God said, I made man's mouth. I can make you able to speak. Moses, said, Oh, but I can't speak. God said, Your brother is a good talker; I'll send him in your place. Well, as time went on who did the speaking? It was Moses. In the end Moses made those great orations in Deuteronomy. Professor Moulton of the University of Chicago, we read the great orations of history but when we read Deuteronomy we find a higher standard of oratory than in most of them. Moses developed into a great speaker, a tremendous orator, but he tremendously underestimated his ability. He said, I can't speak. God said, I'll send Aaron to speak for him. You tell him what to say and he'll say it. Moses said, I can't do it anyway. He said, send whoever you want but don't send me. God practically had to force Moses to step out for God. God does not ordinarily go to all that trouble. In a great crisis God will