



REFLECTIONS

August 14, 2011

**Yet he did not waver through unbelief
regarding the promise of God, but was
strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God**

Romans 4:20

Doubt

With millions watching on national TV, a stunned Colt McCoy stood on the sidelines, a microphone thrust in his face. The game had been lost, his dream for a national championship shattered. The events of the day raced through the mind of the Texas Longhorn quarterback as he prepared his response to the reporter's questions.

The week had been filled with anticipation and the media had freely expressed doubt about the Longhorn's chances of winning. As game time approached, Coach Mack Brown stood before his team with other ideas; but first he needed to remove doubt from the minds of his players. "You've heard all week that you're not good enough to win," he said. "I'm telling you that we're more ready for this game than any game we've played this season. This game is ours!"

With those inspiring words firmly in their minds, the team burst from the locker room inspired to prove that victory was theirs. Coach Brown's words had stripped doubt from their minds--at least for a while. Then Colt went down in pain, and doubt returned to their minds.

Doubt. It rears its head just when we think we have it conquered. We believe until the unmentionable happens. We believe until the conditions change. And when doubt threatens belief, we must condition ourselves all over again. And so did Coach Brown.

At half-time with the strength and experience of his team diminished, he started over again. He called on his fallen quarterback to re-inspire the team. "Don't think of this as anything but practice... Rally around each other. Let's go win this thing."

Newly inspired, the team entered the arena once again. For a while momentum turned their way, but victory was not to be. The Longhorns lost. But God didn't.

God didn't lose when his Son died on the cross, though it may have seemed so at first. And God didn't lose with Colt McCoy's shattered dream. If Jesus had not died on the cross, his salvation message would have been soon forgotten. And if Colt McCoy's team had won the game, few would have noticed when he gave glory to God then declared to the millions watching, "I never question why things happen the way they do. God is in control of my life, and I know if nothing else, I am standing on the Rock."

Doubt creeps into our lives every day; but God is in control of our lives, and if nothing else, in Christ we are standing on the Rock. And about that there is no doubt.

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Richard +

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