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Visions  
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"Where there is no vision, people cast off restraint, no discipline or boundaries, no prophecy, people lose vision"

This is only a few of the reasons that vision is lost. If we lose sight of where we are going and have no vision, there is no reason for discipline or boundaries in our life, we are just passing through life, just existing, whatever will be, will be. Without a vision, the bible tells us we will perish. This not only means Christian people but means all people, whether they are born again or not.

Pro 29:18 "Where there is no \*\*vision, the people \*perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he." KJV

Pro 29:18 "Where there is no vision [no redemptive revelation of God], the people perish; but he who keeps the law [of God, which includes that of man]—blessed (happy, fortunate, and enviable) is he" AMP

Pro 29:18 "When people do not accept divine guidance, they run wild. But whoever obeys the law is joyful." NLT

\*Perish means to pass to an inferior condition, expire, a downward spiral in our lives. The importance of having a vision is to inspire us and we will know where we are going. A vision is a roadmap, it is what we are to follow. In years past when we were traveling in parts of the country that we had not been in before we were always looking at the map in order to keep us on the right road, this was the purpose of the map. Looking at the map enabled us to stay on the right road so that we weren't lost, wandering around aimlessly and never reaching our goal in where we were headed. This is what a vision does for us and yet without a vision we will never reach our goal, because we are not going to do what is necessary to reach that goal, we have no boundaries or discipline in our lives and so we will pass to an inferior condition.

\*\* Vision asks how well do we see? it is the power of seeing, it looks beyond circumstances to bring about what should be, it sees beyond adversity. Webster's dictionary defines vision as the ability to imagine and prepare for the future, there are boundaries, it is foresight, the act or power of perceiving abstract or invisible objects as clearly as if they were visible. Strong's Concordance says that vision is to see or perceive or to take heed to bring about what should be.

If we have a vision, the ability to see beyond adversity, we are going to stay on track and will not pass to an inferior condition. If we don't have a vision, we cannot see any future for ourselves, our vision is our future and without a vision we wander aimlessly in life. The storms of life, many times in adversity or difficulty will begin to erode the vision that we do have, to erase the vision that we may have had. In a God given vision, He cannot do more in the vision, in bringing it to pass than what that person allows Him to do through them, we have to cooperate with Him.

\*\*\* In the book of Habakkuk we read his story regarding the vision that he had set before himself, he wanted to set himself apart in order to hear the voice of the Lord, he was concerned for the

children of Israel since they were in captivity in Babylon, what had happened to Jerusalem since they have been taken, wanting to repair the wall there, the problems that would arise and his determination to do the job of repairing the wall that had been destroyed. He was told to write down the vision which would enable him to know what needed to be done at the appointed time.

Hab 2:1-3 "I will stand upon my \*watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. 2 And the Lord answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. 3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry" KJV

\* watch or listen what is said

It is important for us as believers to set ourselves apart and learn to hear the Lords voice. A clear vision will give energy to keep pursuing the vision. Visions are given to different types of people; individuals, families, corporations, churches or nations, regardless of who receives the vision, it needs to be written down, keeping the vision before us will give us boundaries, discipline and guidelines for our life. We are usually really excited in the beginning, but because things did not work out like we thought they should we may become disappointed.

Jesus has told the ministry team, His disciples, exactly what they were suppose to do and in detail He has explained His plans for them and what the end result would be. The disciples were to go only to the Jews, when God speaks to us it is for a purpose and a specific reason to stay on the right path in order for us to be successful, don't become distracted. They were to be repetitive, preaching the same thing over and over, the kingdom of heaven was at hand. There will be lives changed in preaching the kingdom message and scriptures bear that out, there were miracles of all kinds that followed them. He promises to take care of them, providing everything that they would need.

Matt 10:5-10 "These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: 6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7 And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give. 9 Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses, 10 Nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat." KJV

It is easy to become distracted after seeing others doing ministry in different ways, don't try to copy what others are doing, this may not be Gods plan for you. If God has given you a vision with specific instructions then follow through on what He has shown you to do staying on your map. The vision can be put on hold, but God can help you to make up the time so that it will come to pass and it is easier to get to your destination when you aren't distracted.

\*\*\* (Refer to the story of Habakkuk above, some comments are continued here. )

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When Habakkuk received the vision, God told him to write it down make it plain, don't leave anything to guess work, make sure there are details explaining in full what is being said so that anyone reading it may understand. If it is not plain to you, how can it be explained to anyone else? The reason for writing the vision down, it is for an appointed time, it may tarry but it shall come to pass. Keep believing God, don't cast away your confidence. By writing it down, you won't

forget it, reviewing the vision, reading it occasionally will encourage you to hold on to the vision, you will begin to see it coming to pass, opposition will come and will try to distract.

Nehemiah is a great example of holding on to the vision of rebuilding of Jerusalem. (Read his story in the book of Nehemiah) He and his workers finished repairing the walls in 52 days after being told by outsiders that the job was impossible and couldn't be done. The story is also told in the book of Ezra.

Pro 13:4 "The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing; but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat." KJV  
This is someone who sets down and doesn't work.

Ecc 5:3 "For a dream cometh through the multitude of business; and a fool's voice is known by multitude of words." KJV

Ecc 5:3 "For a dream comes with much business and painful effort, and a fool's voice with many words." AMP

Ecc 5:3 "Overwork makes for restless sleep. Overtalk shows you up as a fool." MESSAGE

It is through hard work and painful effort that a vision comes to pass. In order for the vision to come to pass, it is something that we will have to do. Writing the vision down will make it come to pass but there will be a large amount of opposition, trying to cause us to let go of the vision, it will be hard work. Some will pursue their visions and others will not. Vision acted upon is powerful.

Psa 62:5-8 "My soul, wait only upon God *and* silently submit to Him; for my hope and expectation are from Him. 6 He only is my Rock and my Salvation; He is my Defense and my Fortress, I shall not be moved. 7 With God rests my salvation and my glory; He is my Rock of unyielding strength *and* impenetrable hardness, and my refuge is in God! 8 Trust in, lean on, rely on, *and* have confidence in Him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts before Him. God is a refuge for us (a fortress and a high tower). Selah [pause, and calmly think of that]!" AMP

Our hope is from God, the dream that we have on the inside, that desire or expectation comes from God, so don't be apologizing for it. Having clear vision will keep us on track, He is our everything but to keep on track we must have seasons where we think on Him and what He has called us to do.

Pro 24:14 "So shall you know skillful and godly Wisdom to be thus to your life; if you find it, then shall there be a future and a reward, and your hope and expectation shall not be cut off." AMP

You will see the fulfillment of your vision in your lifetime if you find the knowledge of God and seek the wisdom of God. Hard work and staying on course will be rewarded, it is a God given vision that has the ability to see beyond adversity and circumstances and bring the vision to pass.

There is a pull on the inside that will help to keep us on course. We need to see ourselves delivered, wholly and complete in the power of God, Gods grace working on the inside, enabling us to keep running our course, staying on that course.

Isa 46:10 "**Declaring the end from the beginning**, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:" KJV

He has judged us faithful and declared that we are a winner. We are victorious and we are free, we are overcomers and He has declared the end result, this is what vision is all about. God sees us as overcomers, God wants us to see ourselves this way, we are winners, we must see and talk the vision.