

September 17, 2017

Preparing For The Storms Of Life #2

Pastor Charles Mendenhall

In reviewing the word that has been previously taught, we learned how to prepare for the storms of life and how to not only endure the storm but how to succeed after the storm, because the Lord is always with us in everything that we are faced with and that the Lord will deliver us out of all the troubles we encounter. We will see how people received in the past and what their outcome was, they received incredible deliverances from the situations they were placed in. They depended entirely on the Lord and many people witnessed their outcome knowing that their God had intervened for them, keeping them in a place of safety.

Psa 1:1-3 "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he *meditate day and night. 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." KJV

*meditate day and night; night does not just mean night time when it is dark, but the situations or things that he is going through in the battle, keeping the switch of faith turned on, this is a result of man's meditation, worrying the word of God, difficult times does not put a person on hold, there will be a season of victory, receiving from God, **this is like the person who is not meditating or trusting the word of God, never able to see any good in anything that comes along, unable to get his mind quiet, no roots or purpose in life, has no hope

Jer 17:5-6 "Thus saith the Lord; **Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. 6 For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited." KJV

Jer 17:6 "Cursed is the strong one who depends on mere humans, Who thinks he can make it on muscle alone and sets God aside as dead weight. He's like a tumbleweed on the prairie, out of touch with the good earth. He lives rootless and aimless in a land where nothing grows." MESSAGE

Jer 17:7-8 "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. 8 For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit." KJV

If a person is wanting to hear from God and their spirit man, they must be able to meditate the word, they must get their mind quiet, not be thinking about all the things that are going on around them, the distractions or the situation they are dealing with. The mind, the soulish part of them, must become quiet and come into subjection to their spirit, then they will be able to hear what the spirit of God is saying to them. The bible tells us that the man who meditates the word in good times and bad, is like the tree planted by the water able to receive from God and is blessed. He will be able to see the good times when they come, he shall inhabit the good of the land. We can be an oasis in the midst of a desert land, there is a place in Jesus where all our needs will be met, if we stay anchored in the word of God.

There are two types of knowledge; revelation and sense. Revelation knowledge reveals truth to us and sense knowledge is aware of what the bible says, but denies that it is for today. Revelation knowledge is revealed by the Holy Spirit and we have the understanding that everything is for today. By practicing meditation of the word, we learn the principles of faith that are so important to us.

In order for us to walk in victory, overcoming the adversities of life, we must learn the principles of faith, learning these principles will enable us to help other people, some desire to be helped while

others do not. Faith has a voice but really speaks what is in the heart during the midnight hours while the pressure is on, we cannot expect victory, and talk defeat. The inner dialogue that is going on inside almost continually is the result of what we have been feeding our spirit man, our mind or emotions. This inner dialogue is going to come out of our mouths, our course in life is determined by the things that we speak

The principles of faith that are seen in the lives of Abraham and in Paul are a result of what the Lord had spoken to them and them being doers of that word received. The promise had been given to Abraham and Sarah regarding the son that they were to have even though they were old, God had spoken it and therefore it be fulfilled. He was to become the father of many nations, unable to make a count of them. He changed the names of Abraham and Sarah. We see in Galatians that he had strong faith. In the old testament we see the faithfulness of God bringing about what He had promised, regardless of how Abraham was not doing everything right or he might be lacking faith at what he had heard. God didn't give up on Abraham.

Rom 4:19-21 "And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform." KJV

Gal 3:6-9 "Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. 7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. 8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. 9 So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham." KJV

The following scriptures tell more of the story of Abram or Abraham and the promise that God had given to him regarding the birth of his son, what His plans for Abraham were about, instruction on where to go and with whom to reside, Abraham didn't always do what he had been told, but God continued to work with him to see the fulfillment of the promise come to pass. The promise had been made when Abraham was seventy-five years old but did not happen until he was ninety-nine years old, he considered not his own body but continued to believe God, knowing that God was able to bring about the promise. He faced the fact that his body was as good as dead, but he didn't weaken. What kept Abraham from weakening and giving up in the midst of adversity? Under totally hopeless circumstances he continued to believe and didn't give up.

Gen 12:1-5 "Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: 2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. 4 So Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran. 5 And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came." KJV

Gen 15:1-6 "After these things the word of the Lord came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward. 2 And Abram said, Lord God, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus? 3 And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir. 4 And, behold, the word of the Lord came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir. 5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. 6 And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness." KJV

Gen 17:1 "And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect." KJV

Paul tells in Romans chapter four, the story of Abraham how regardless of circumstances, he continued

to believe what God had told him.

Rom 4:18 "Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be." KJV circumstances

Rom 4:19-21 "Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead. 20 Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, 21 being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised." NIV

Rom 4:19-21 "And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform." KJV

Rom 4:19-22 "And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. 22 And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness." KJV

In the midst of all the negative voices we are hearing, we cannot allow the adversary to stop what God is wanting to do in our lives, God is able to bring to pass all the things that He has spoken to us. He is more than enough,

God is able to cause something miraculous to happen when circumstances are speaking loudly "that it won't work". In the midst of all the negative voices and whatever device the adversary is using to pull us down or stop Gods anointing from resting on us or flowing through us, God is able to encompass or circle around us, watch over and turn back any adversity. He puts us in a cocoon surrounded in His presence. The enemy may shoot his fiery darts but they will not come near us. We are in a place of protection.

It is our choice to allow our hearts to be troubled in a place of adversity when it looks like what God has promised is not coming to pass. God has placed us in a place when circumstances are speaking loudly in order for us to continue to believe His promise that has been made and it will come to pass. God is more than enough.

As Abraham and Sarah began to speak to each other with their new names, their destiny was determined by those words. Our course or destiny is determined by what comes out of our mouths. God gives us a word during our time of adversity in order that we won't give up. God is our shield and is bigger than any adversity that we may have in our lives. God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him, but without faith it is impossible to please him.

Heb 11:6 "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." KJV

Heb 11:6 "But without faith it is impossible to please *and* be satisfactory to Him. For whoever would come near to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He is the rewarder of those who earnestly *and* diligently seek Him [out]. " AMP

Weak faith will cause people to not take seriously the things that God has spoken to them, they will continually look at the circumstances around them and question whether they have actually heard from God, the words spoken by them will show that they don't really believe, they are not meditating what the word says and are not seeking God. They are not believing that God exists and that He is a rewarder to those who earnestly and diligently seek Him.

Rom 4:19-22 "And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but

was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. 22 And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness." KJV

Abraham was fully persuaded the promise would come to pass because God had spoken.

We must have commitment in our lives, we must be willing to pay the price and continue to seek Him, He is knocking on the door and wants to come in and bring all the good things to us, wholeness and completion. He is not a respecter of persons, if we can just believe. You can't expect to receive victory and keep talking unbelief. Meditate the word and be encouraged. Keep praising God in the darkness of the night, victory comes in the morning. The season of our victory is just around the corner, don't look at the circumstances.