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Expect The Unexpected #1

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This is a new year and we many times look at it as a fresh beginning and it can be, however, whatever revelation we are walking in must be walked out by faith, to inherit and walk in the light of that revelation. Overcomers in both the Old Testament and the New Testament did it by believing or by faith. There can be a lack of solid bible teaching and yet some of the teaching that we are hearing is not correct. The devil will try to get us to believe that some of what we hear sounds good but it is not from God. God doesn't put things on us, there isn't a double standard. We need to have clear concise teaching of the word of God.

The last few verses of chapter 3 of Hebrews tells us that the reason the children of Israel did not have the blessings of what God had promised was because of unbelief. They had not entered into the rest the Lord had provided, true faith always has a rest, there is no turmoil. They were unable to mix faith with the word.

Heb 4:2 "For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it." KJV

Heb 4:2 "We have heard the message, just as they did. But they failed to believe what they heard, and the message did not do them any good." CEV

Heb 4:2 "We received the same promises as those people in the wilderness, but the promises didn't do them a bit of good because they didn't receive the promises with faith." MESSAGE

We are hearing Gods promises, hearing the word of God but sometimes we don't profit because we are not mixing faith with the promises or we don't believe the word of God, as we continue we will begin to understand what it means to believe and what Gods plan is for our lives.

Job 5:8-9 "I would seek unto God, and unto God would I commit my cause: 9 Which doeth great things and unsearchable; marvellous things without number:" KJV

Job 5:8-9 "If I were in your shoes, I'd go straight to God, I'd throw myself on the mercy of God. After all, he's famous for great and unexpected acts; there's no end to his surprises." MESSAGE

If we are having the kinds of trouble that Job was having, we would need to throw ourselves on God's mercy, pride would probably be the thing that would hold us up, but God exalts the humble. We have entered into a new year and we need to be leaning heavily on God's grace and mercy, because God is famous for great and unexpected acts and we should be expecting the unexpected miraculous in our lives in this year, because there is no end to His surprises. He doesn't run out of power and miracles or ability and as we walk in His plan and purpose we can begin to expect the miraculous in our lives. He is famous for that, He is greater than the devil and any opposition that might come our way. Expect the unexpected acts in your lives.

2 Kings 7:1-2 "Then Elisha said, **Hear ye the word of the Lord**; Thus saith the Lord, **To morrow** about this time shall a measure of fine flour be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, in the gate of Samaria. 2 Then a lord on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God, and said, Behold, if the Lord would make windows in heaven, might this thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof." KJV

The children of Israel living in Samaria have been surrounded and taken captive by the Syrians. The Syrians have a vendetta against the prophet Elisha who had been speaking to the king of Israel what the Syrians were planning because of receiving words of knowledge from the Lord while on his bed. The Syrians were convinced that there was a traitor in their camp, but were told that Elisha was the one responsible for what had been happening. There were people in those days who knew what was being planned before it happened.

We should be ready to know what the plans the devil is trying to put on us before his plans happen. We should be prepared and plan for it, we know that the word tells us that as we receive the word, the devil comes immediately to steal it from us. We learn to persevere and be persistent and endure in difficult times, coming out of the other side, moved up to a high level spiritually with the devil under our feet. There is no greater name than the name of Jesus.

Heb 4:2 "We received the same promises as those people in the wilderness, but the promises didn't do them a bit of good because they didn't receive the promises with faith." MESSAGE

These scriptures in 2nd Kings are linked to Hebrews chapter 4 verse 2 and by

reading the complete story that is told in 2nd Kings we learn of the hardship that the children had been facing for a long period of time. There was no food, they had been eating anything that was made available to them, but Elisha gave them a word from the Lord in verse 1 and 2 about what the Lord was preparing for them, it would be a complete turnaround and that the man he was speaking to would not live to see it come to pass.

Elisha had specific directions given to him and we should be hearing exactly what God is saying to us. Whatever season we may be in we need to hear. God is great, He never runs out of miracles. Elisha is telling them at this time tomorrow there would be a change, things would be back to normal verse 1, yet there was one man who didn't believe the word that was being spoken in verse 2. The man was not ready for God to restore what had been taken. The story continues regarding four lepers that lived outside the city, they noticed that there was no activity around the camp of the Syrians who had fled thinking they were under attack, the lepers knowing they had nothing to lose, ventured into the camp and found all the plunder that had been left by the Syrians, they decided instead of keeping it for themselves, they needed to tell the city that it was available and so the prophecy that Elisha had given about things being changed was fulfilled. God is famous for doing the unexpected.

Job 5:9 "After all, he's famous for great and unexpected acts; there's no end to his surprises." MESSAGE.

2 Kings 7:17-18 "And the king appointed the lord on whose hand he leaned to have the charge of the gate: and the people trode upon him in the gate, and he died, as the man of God had said, who spake when the king came down to him. 18 And it came to pass as the man of God had spoken to the king, saying, Two measures of barley for a shekel, and a measure of fine flour for a shekel, shall be to morrow about this time in the gate of Samaria:" KJV

If we don't believe the word of the Lord, yet we see the miraculous happening and we aren't partakers, it is because we didn't believe the word of the Lord.

In our lack we can't see abundance, in our difficult times it is challenging to see the miraculous. We need to be ready to see the miraculous at all times regardless of what we are needing. In our challenging times don't think that it has to stay this way because it has always been this way for years, we hear the answer but we don't believe, this is where we have to make a change.

We are going to see a contrast between Matthew 8 and 2 Kings chapter 7.

Matt 8:7-13 "And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. 8 The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. 9 For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. 10 When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. 11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. 12 But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 13 And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour." KJV

Jesus was confronted by a centurion who requested help, asking Him to come to his home his servant was needing to be healed. This centurion was not part of the church, but was over many people and sometimes people outside the church understand authority and structure better than people in the church, who think there is no one over the leader, but God is a God of structure and the centurion understood authority, saying I have men under me and I am under authority. Jesus agreed to go, but the man said that it was not necessary only speak the word and it would be accomplished. Jesus marvelled at his faith and because he believed his servant was healed. Here is an example of a man that heard the word and believed.

For many of the accounts that are in the bible telling of someone needing a miraculous healing or deliverance, it is necessary for the one needing the miracle to have the faith to receive, however, in the case of the centurion, he heard and was able to believe and receive for his servant.

This year that we are in, what we are expecting to be done will be the way that we are believing, favor and increase to follow us, having an unexpected supernatural outpouring of the Holy Spirit. God to show up with unexpected supernatural miracles, anticipate this to happen because we hear and believe.

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

Chapter 11 of Hebrews is referred to as the "hall of fame" faith heroes who did the impossible things that could not be done in the natural simply because they believed what God spoke to them and charged them to do.

Heb 11:2-8 "For by it the elders obtained a good report. 3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things

which do appear. 4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh. 5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. 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*. 7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith. 8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went." KJV

**v. 2 faith speaks, v.4 faith had action, v.5 faith walks with God, v.7 faith hears, v.8 faith has obedience

*diligently means a firm steady effort to accomplish that which is undertaken. If we are diligent when adversity comes along, doesn't mean we throw in the towel and quit.

As we look at these verses, we see the broader picture of all the attributes of believing God and how it is displayed in various ways, Enoch walked so close to God that God just took him. Faith has corresponding actions. Verse 6 tells us that without faith it is impossible to please Him and that we must also believe that He is. Many believers do not believe that God will reward them, this is where faith comes into the picture, they must believe that He is the one who does the unexpected and will reward them. Remember all the **verses that speak of faith and what they do. These are the God kind of faith.

Job 5:9 "After all, he's famous for great and unexpected acts; there's no end to his surprises."
MESSAGE

This is after we have thrown ourselves on Gods mercy. God is famous, the church of today doesn't know this, the Old Testament knew He was famous. The old covenant was just a shadow with the shedding of the blood of bulls and goats, but the New Testament covenant is much better, it has been bought and sealed with the blood of Jesus Christ. The blood of Jesus blots out the remembrance of sin totally, it just doesn't cover it like the blood of the bulls and goats did. God doesn't remember the old sin, even though sometimes people try to bring it up, but we are new creatures in Jesus, all things have become new and He has a purpose for us to fulfill in this life. God is famous for great and unexpected acts, unexpected blessings coming our way. Expect greater and more, hear Gods voice and believe.

Joshua 6:2 And the Lord said unto Joshua, *See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour" KJV

This account in Joshua resembles the story that we read in 2 Kings with the children of Israel and Syria. There was a harlot that lived in the city of Jericho who asked the men who checked out the city, why the children of Israel had not taken Jericho like they had taken the other cities, they had heard and believed it would happen to them, the people there knew that God had not forsaken them, He was with them, what were they waiting for? She had helped the spies and protected them, they told her what she should do so that she would be spared, her and her household when Jericho was taken. Rahab is mentioned in the lineage of Jesus. Sometimes people outside of the church understand more what God is wanting to do, then those who are waiting for God to do something for them.

*see - God is speaking to Joshua see and hear that God is giving the city to them.

A special word given: God is saying to us today,

"Look, open your eyes of faith and see I have given the abundance that will be for this day, don't see the lack, don't see the impossible, don't see the opposition, see yourselves as moving into the plan of God, the anointing of God and with nothing being able to stand before you. Your enemies fleeing seven different ways before your face and the Christ that is in you is rising up and causing you and bringing you to a place of honor and people will come to you seeking out the wisdom of God, how do you do it? and you will be able to point them to the Christ, the eternal one who has never forsaken or changed His plans about mankind here in the earth and His plan in earth for man is that they would rise up and be the body of Christ that He has intended them to be and He, the Head is seated in heavenly places and we, His body is here on the earth but yet we have been lifted up together with Him and made to sit together in heavenly places all things under our feet."

Eph 2:6 "And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:" KJV

We have our foot on the neck of the enemy not the foot of the enemy on our neck, get out of that kind of mentality. That is mixing unbelief with faith, that is mixing the doctrines of devils with the doctrine of Jesus. Timothy said that would happen.

Gods plan has never changed, when going through difficulty begin to praise Him because glory is just around the corner. God gave the plan to Joshua to take the city of Jericho, it was an unusual plan even though he wasn't able to see around the corner. God is famous for His acts.

Mark 9:23-24 "Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. 24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief." KJV

Mark 9:23-24 "And Jesus said, [You say to Me], If You can do anything? [Why,] all things can be (are possible) to him who believes! 24 At once the father of the boy gave [an eager, piercing, inarticulate] cry with tears, and he said, Lord, I believe! [Constantly] help my weakness of faith!" AMP

Mark 9:24 "Right away the boy's father shouted, "I do have faith! Please help me to have even more." CEV

These scriptures are telling the story of the man who had a son who the demons tormented, trying to kill him. The man asked Jesus to heal and deliver him, Jesus told him if he could believe that all things were possible, and the man cried out for Jesus to help him with his unbelief or weakness of faith.

Matt 17:20 "And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you." KJV

Some will say we only need tiny faith, but tiny faith only handles tiny problems, we need more than that. The seed principle with small faith or a grain of faith is that it always grows and produces a harvest. We must be expecting for our faith to be growing and developing.

There are seasons in our lives no matter our age, we have not seen all that God has planned for us, there is an anointing for each of us. God is looking for those who will walk in His plan.