

December 2, 2018

Discouragement

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The following scripture has been the foundational scripture used over the past few weeks, encouraging believers to rise up, not give up and quit when faced with circumstances that sometimes appear to have no end to them. Stand your ground, rise up, don't despair and don't allow the enemy to cause you to fail, he has a plan that he tries to implement in your life that will cause this to happen. The enemy has a tool shed in which he has many different things that can cause discouragement especially when things appear to be going well. Discouragement always leads to despair, hopelessness and disappointment. Despair is the opposite of faith.

Isa 60:1-2 " Arise [from the depression and prostration in which circumstances have kept you—rise to a new life]! Shine (be radiant with the glory of the Lord), for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you! 2 For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and dense darkness [all] peoples, but the Lord shall arise upon you [O Jerusalem], and His glory shall be seen on you." AMP

This is our season to be radiant with the glory of the Lord and the only way that will come to pass, is if we on purpose make a choice or decision and have corresponding actions that we are going to arise and shine and be radiant with that glory. Circumstances have the power or ability to cause us to be put on hold or want to give up. However, Jesus when we keep our eyes on Him is greater than the power that circumstances have. He can break those chains of discouragement, depression, wanting to give up whatever might have a hold on us, but we have to make the effort to arise.

This word was given by one of the believers who the Lord had spoken to preparing her for things in the future that she might be facing. The Lord many times will prepare believers with a word like this giving them an opportunity to get ready for whatever the future might be. It would be wise on the part of the believer to acknowledge the word and begin to make preparation.

The word spoken was resolute which means to be admirably purposeful, to be determined, unwavering, unswerving, adamant, single minded, totally unwavering and steadfast, to be staunch, stalwart, unflinching, unhesitating, persistent, strong willed and unshakeable. All of these words would fall into the category for the believers not becoming discouraged, not giving up and resisting the temptation to quit.

2 Cor 4:17-18 "So we're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without his unfolding grace. These hard times are small potatoes compared to the coming good times, the lavish celebration prepared for us. There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever."

MESSAGE

We draw encouragement from the above scripture, which shows that the season of our life we may be going through now, has a promise of the future. Glory is just around the corner is the way that Paul speaks of it in another bible version.

Discourage means to refuse, forbid or neutralize or break down to make of no effect. This is what discouragement is intended to do in the believers life, it will pull you off the road as bad news comes your way, putting you in neutral causing there to be no advancement and you just stop. There is a negative effect when we yield to discouragement, your confidence in God will drop and you begin to wonder where He is at. Discouragement will always cause you to look at the problem instead of the answer.

Some believers are more prone to be discouraged than others. There are many reasons why a believer would become discouraged, tired physically and something happens, they just don't have the strength to rise up and fight it, it can be a series of events of adverse circumstances, living in the ups and downs of the days events not having the maturity that is needed to rise above the situation, maturity will level it out as we become doers of the word, we must get past the period of the ups and downs.

There are ways we can overcome or resist discouragement. We poison our future when we get discouraged, it affects not only us but others involved and there is no will to fight. It is hard for discouragement to get into a grateful heart. When we have a grateful heart, we can overcome some of the discouragement, when realizing all the things that we have in our life we should be praising the Lord and showing a

grateful heart.

Psa 31:24 "Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord."
KJV

Elijah was an example of someone who had discouragement in his life, all the circumstances that he had encountered and what his response to all the those events have been. More of Elijah's life is spoken about in 1st Kings, starting in chapter 17 continue through chapter 19, there are parts of Elijahs life mentioned in 2 Kings that tells of him and Elisha as he was being taken to heaven. He had experienced many different manifestations of the Lords goodness to him even though he had threats made toward him. But he was one of those who was up and down at different seasons of his life. Read all the chapters to get the full story of his life before he was taken by God to heaven, he was taken supernaturally. God was involved in Elijahs life when he was ready to give up because God still had a plan for his life. Elijah made a choice to do what the Lord had told him when he took a step of faith.

This is the same way that God is willing to work with anyone who is not ready to give up. Arise is the word that encourages all believers because God still has a plan for their lives regardless of what their circumstances may be and the believers have a choice to make just like Elijah did.

1 Kings 19:1-9 "And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. 2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time. 3 And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there. 4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers. 5 And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat. 6 And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again. 7 And the angel of the Lord came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee. 8 And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God. 9 And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah?"
KJV

1 Kings 19:15 "And the Lord said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria:" KJV

There are things God wants to do and will do for the believer in the lowest moment of their life if they will respond to Him. He will come and will strengthen them and give them a fresh word or direction from Him to them. God won't write them off, He is all about restoration. God wants to restore if they will only cry out to Him. The promises in the word are for everyone.

Heb 12:1-3 "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." KJV

Jesus never lost His focus on anything and we must not lose our focus. We determine what our focus will be if we give up or become discouraged. If we faint we won't have a harvest, the choice for the believer is to decide where they will place their focus.

Gal 6:9 "And don't allow yourselves to be weary or disheartened in planting good seeds, for the season of reaping the wonderful harvest you've planted is coming!" PASSION

Gal 6:9 "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." KJV

Our response is to be thankful and be grateful to the Lord for all His blessings to us, don't become weary and discouraged.