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"Vision"

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It is Gods plan to prosper the believers but it is in relationship to the prosperity of our soul, we are encouraged to keep our soul prosperous, keep our minds renewed, knowing what the will of the Lord is. Being a blessing to someone else should be our goal as it is the plan of God, we are to be blessed by Him in order that we can bless others, fill our cups up so that we may bless.

It is said that in order to receive the fullness of a truth, it needs to be heard numerous times before it can become a part of us. If we don't continue to refresh ourselves with that truth we can loose it and we need to be reminded of it, stirring up our minds.

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

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

Pro 29:18 "When there is no prophetic vision the people ***cast off restraint, but the one who keeps the law, blessed is he!" NET

*vision means how well we see, power of seeing, to look beyond what we see now and give us the ability to bring to pass what ought to be, beyond a set of circumstances that may not be favorable but because of the vision, we can see they way it should be and if we wait on God, He will give us that ability to bring it to pass. (Strong's definition) (Websters definition) says it is the ability to imagine or the power of seeing or perceiving the impossible objects or the invisible objects as clearly as if they were right in front of us.

**perish means to pass to an inferior condition or expire,

***cast off restraint - no purpose, no vision, no discipline, use of maps for purpose which show way to destination, dream, goal

There must be vision, cooperately, individuallly, in business, in our homes, whatever we are doing, if there is no vision, we will perform on an inferior level.

With a vision there has to be discipline and control, not letting the flesh rule. Without prophecy people become demoralized.

Sometimes we may need to have our vision enhanced with some type of aid, but if this is moved over into the spiritual realm, the Holy Spirit will enable us to see clearly, He is the revealer of truth and will lead and guide us into that truth and brings things to our remembrance.

Something on the inside of most believers cause them to have dreams or visions or goals that they want to attain. Without vision they have no purpose, they are without destination, wandering aimlessly, they are in need of a map which will show the way, taking them to their purpose. Staying on that course will take them to their destination. They all have a purpose or destiny and there always comes challenges as they try to reach their goal. Little things will rise up, with a tendency to assassinate their destiny or purpose that they have in life. Those things are meant to strip them of hope that is alive on the inside of them, causing them to loose hope.

Pro 13: 12 "*Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life." KJV

*Hope - lost, no purpose or learning to follow

Habakkuk was inquiring of the Lord what to do regarding what he was seeing happen to the people in Israel. These people were living inferior lives, below the blessing of God, heavens doors had been closed and nothing seemed to be working for them. Habakkuk wanted to know what needed to be done to correct the situation, knowing that this was not the plan of God for His people. Habakkuk decided to watch and listen to what the Lord might say to him regarding his concern. The Lord told him to write down the vision.

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 reprov'd. 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

Hab 2:1-3 "I will climb up to my watchtower and stand at my guardpost. There I will wait to see what the Lord says and how he will answer my complaint. Then the Lord said to me, "Write my answer plainly on tablets, so that a runner can carry the correct message to others. This *vision is for a future time. It describes the end, and it will be fulfilled. If it seems slow in coming, wait

patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed." NLT

God has a plan, an appointed time, a set time or season, in order for us to hear from Him and know His plan for our lives, we need to set aside time and get quiet ourselves in order to hear what He is saying, the choice is ours and we have to take the responsibility, most believers are not willing to take the time to seek God and find out what His plan for their lives might be. There has to be an effort made in order to hear from Him.

In order to write down a vision, you have to have a desire or vision, you need hope or a dream, vision gives energy, it gives life and gives a purpose to live. Taking a vision away from someone will make them lethargic, they have no energy. Your purpose is not complete, it is always in front of you, it is for an appointed time. We have an appointment with our vision to come to pass, God has the time set for this to happen in the right season. Most believers will keep that appointment but there will be a few that won't. That appointed time will come to pass, we will see it, it will tarry but wait for it.

Are we daring to dream big? think big, and stretch out your tent pegs, you won't be ashamed. If we will stick with the dream, it will be fulfilled. Think and plan big dreams beyond your ability. Dreams and visions are the language of the Holy Spirit. We may not know yet what the plans are that God has for us, but He does, be ready to see what they might be.

Pro 24:14 "So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off." KJV

We deal with people from different areas or times in our lives and are reminded that the church is a like a hospital set up to spiritually heal people in need, a place where the believer can come and be fed, built up spiritually in order to help others. If we are going to change and deal with people on the outside of the church, we have to recognize that change will not happen unless we make the choice to change. It will require vision and dreams, it means that we have to take responsibility of where we are in life not blaming others for what we are doing or have done, but acknowledge what is going on. To many lives are in bondage because of refusing to take responsibility for their actions and make the necessary change in order to fulfill their dreams or visions.

A story was given regarding a man who had finally reached the time in his life, that he was totally tired of what had become of his life. He had gotten involved in drugs, was always feeling sorry for himself, was depressed, always blaming others for what was happening in his life and had spent time in prison, however, during this time he had a defining moment, he realized that he had no one to blame but himself, took full responsibility of his actions and where he was in life, he began investing in his future by reading and his dream of having his own television show began to grow, he began to see and make a change, while still in prison he organized shows with the other prisoners, after getting out of prison, he developed his own show, began to live out his dream, pursuing the life that he had always wanted. It took a period of time to reach that goal but he accomplished what he had dreamed for.

There is no limit with God, regardless of where you are at today, down and out or at the top. If you have a dream or vision on the inside of you, the Holy Spirit will help you to bring it to pass, but there is the manward side of cooperating with God which means taking a step of faith into that realm of the supernatural.

Phil 3:12-13 "I admit that I haven't yet acquired the absolute fullness that I'm pursuing, but I run with *passion into his abundance so that I may reach the purpose that Jesus Christ has called me to fulfill and wants me to discover. 13 I don't depend on my own strength to accomplish this; however I do have one compelling focus: I forget all of the past as I fasten my heart to the future instead." TPT

*passion means purpose, forgetting the past

Paul is writing to the Philippians and even though he is in prison, he is able to let the people know what his plans for his future will be. He has a purpose and will forget the past and look to the future. He is running with passion, when we do something with passion, we get busy and do it. If we going to be passionate about something we take extra steps to pursue our goal. We don't use our own strength, we forget about the past and look to the future only, we make a choice. Paul ignored the things that he heard knowing what his future would bring.

Change what we are saying and we will change what we are seeing. What is being said to us, is there no change? are we learning to just live with it? Saying vs seeing, our words will bring about restoration, it is a process and takes time, but will bring change to our lives. We find out what is on the inside of us under pressure, if faith is there but has the voice of the adversary it will bring fear, but if the voice of the Holy

Spirit is there it will bring confidence for overcoming. Faith and fear do not work together.

2 Cor 3:18 "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." KJV

We will become what we are seeing, changed into the image of God, beholding the glory of God and beginning to see ourselves successful, total in all areas of our lives. We must stay focused, forgetting what is behind and looking and reaching for those things ahead.

Phil 3:12-13 "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before," KJV

The following examples are of people who begin to see what was there and stayed focused on what they saw. The story told of the boy in the box, his folks because of his inability to walk, the result of polio, placed him in a box and told him not get out, but upon seeing others walking by, he realized that he was not normal and decided that he was going to get out of the box, he kept trying to get out, his family would find him out and put him back, finally they just let him get out and the future of the young boy was great, he became quite wealthy and had much success, because he was able to get out of the box. There is another example of a person who was trying to swim the bay off the California coast, gave up the first time, even though she was within 1/2 mile to the shore, told the people that was with her, she couldn't see her way, had lost the focus of the shoreline. However, after trying the second time with weather conditions the same, it was foggy, she was able to finish, saying that her focus had been different because she knew there was a shoreline ahead, she had kept her focus on where she was headed and what her goal was. She was a winner, not a quitter

Many time people will try to get us to change our focus and give up instead of following after our dreams or visions, stay focused, keep our priorities in order, don't listen to the many outside voices. Our priority list should be 1) God 2) neighbors and family 3) other things, jobs etc. Don't quit just because there may be some difficulty in reaching your goal. When what we see on the inside becomes what more real than what we see on the outside it is only a short time and we will have it.

