While We Look Not

House of the Lord March 23, 2016

An Old Testament passage on how to transform one's thinking from the blinding influence of the world system and the god of this system, to thinking and believing in line with The God of all Creation, states:

Joshua 1:8 (NAS)

This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.

Thinking that is re-programmed from darkness to light, brings Godly success and prosperity.

The natural or carnal, unrenewed mind is unable to follow God or His purpose.

In the New Covenant, where we have better promises and greater insights empowered by grace, we are instructed: 2 Corinthians 4:18 (NAS)

while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

This instruction on the key to advancing in Kingdom life and empowerment takes Joshua 1:8 to a new level of comprehension.

By reviewing a few other translations of this key New Covenant passage, we gain even more insight into its revelation.

KJ21

while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

AMP

So we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are unseen; for the things which are visible are temporal [just brief and fleeting], but the things which are invisible are everlasting *and* imperishable.

Visible to the senses.

CEB

We don't focus on the things that can be seen but on the things that can't be seen. The things that can be seen don't last, but the things that can't be seen are eternal.

Focus, set your attention to observing the natural.

CEV

Things that are seen don't last forever, but things that are not seen are eternal. That's why we keep our minds on the things that cannot be seen.

Stay your mind/attention on the unseen (yet) promises of God.

ERV

So we think about what we cannot see, not what we see. What we see lasts only a short time, and what we cannot see will last forever.

What you focus on, inspires your thought process.

EXB

We set our eyes not on what we see but on what we cannot see. [For; Because] What we see ·will last only a short time [is temporary/transitory], but what we cannot see ·will last forever [is eternal].

With purpose, we set our eyes/focus on the unseen promise God has given.

2 Corinthians 4:18 tells the Believer both what to do and what not to do, to achieve the vast benefits of The Kingdom of God system of being and doing.

First

Do not take into observation, consideration or contemplation, what the senses report on any matter.

This is because the natural realm has been polluted by the fall of man. The fallen nature rejects God.

The ruler of the natural, carnal, world system of being and doing is a liar and the father of lies. He has pulled the wool over the sense realm and perverted reality.

2 Corinthians 4:4 (NAS)

in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

(NIV)

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

What is meant by world or age? A system based on anti-God misdirection and deception.

We do not look at, consider or take in to our thought process what our five senses report to be the state of affairs.

We do focus our attention on what God has declared to be or promised to us.

By focusing on, meditating and taking ownership of, what God The Father has said/promised, we escape the bondage/blindness of the world system, and take on the divine nature.

2 Peter 1:2-4 (NAS)

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord;

Grace and peace grow within the Believer as they gain more knowledge of The King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

³ seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

Everything we can want or need comes to us through seizing a promise of God. But, we must obtain a knowledge of our Lord, which comes by meditating His Words to us.

Meditate: To mutter, to repeatedly go over, to chew the cud, to dwell upon until it becomes more real and authoritative than what your senses tell you.

⁴ For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of *the* divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

It is through believing on, trusting in, and taking possession of (ownership) the promises of God that we enter into the provision of God.

His Words to us are the keys to The Kingdom of God. The keys (promises) unlock the treasures of His Kingdom.

Looking at the problems, road blocks, lies, deceptions of the evil one pulls us away from what God has prepared for us.

1 Corinthians 2:9 (NAS)
but just as it is written,
"Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard,
And which have not entered the heart of man,
All that God has prepared for those who love Him."

God has prepared, by His Word, more than we can imagine. It awaits us. We must lay hold of it, dwell upon it until it becomes real to us, take ownership of it and celebrate its truth to us.

The story of Abraham illustrates this process of faith.

Romans 4:17 (NAS)

(as it is written, "A father of many nations have I made you") in the presence of Him whom he believed, *even* God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist.

Calls into being what cannot yet be seen. What does not yet exist in the natural realm.

Romans 4:18 (NAS)

In hope against hope he believed, so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had been spoken, "So shall your descendants be."

In God inspired hope, he hoped, even to the natural sense level, there was no hope. He laid hold of "God said" regardless of all else.

¹⁹ Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb;

He looked not at his nor Sarah's physical ability.

²⁰ yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God,

But he did look at, meditate, draw upon the promise of God, to become strong in, or empowered by, "God said."

Block out natural input.
Lay hold of the eternal Word of God.
Dwell upon it until it becomes your word.
Celebrate its Truth.
Decree your ownership of it.