

Blessed Be Thou Word Part I

....without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. ~ Hebrews 11:6

Genesis 1:3,6,9,11,14-15,20,24,26 3 **Then God said**, "Let there be light"; **and there was light**. 6 **Then God said**, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. 7 **and it was so**. 9 **Then God said**, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry *land* appear"; **and it was so**. 11 **Then God said**, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb *that* yields seed, *and* the fruit tree *that* yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed *is* in itself, on the earth"; **and it was so**. 14 **Then God said**, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; 15 and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth"; **and it was so**. 20 **Then God said**, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens." 24 **Then God said**, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, *each* according to its kind"; **and it was so**. 26 **Then God said**, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

Psalms 33:6,9 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth 9 **For He spoke, and it was done**; He commanded, and it stood fast.(to arise, appear, come on the scene, stand forth, appear)

Isaiah 48:13 (NLT) **I spoke, and they came into being**.

Revelation 19:11-16 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He *was* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now **out of His mouth goes a sharp sword**, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

From the creation itself to the end of creation as we know it, God used us Word to accomplish his purpose. From Genesis to Revelation there are great and mighty promises to us if we would only obey and cherish His Word. My question today is?

- What happened between creation and now to make us sometimes question his Word?
- Why is His Word so unimportant to us so insignificant in our fast paced society of today?

- Why don't we comprehend the majesty and great power of His Word?

There are many reasons why some have become ineffective as it relates the promises of Scripture. A few of the reasons why God's Word seems to be ineffective, or dormant are as follows;

- Lack of genuine **faith**
- There is **unbelief** regarding what His Word says. Many feel that certain aspects of His Word simply **do not apply** to their circumstances or our generation
- Some people are just simply **Ignorant**. They just don't know what his Word says. *(I think most the other reasons are variations of these three)*

Before we continue lets establish some parameters for our discussion: Let's use the Scriptures to frame our discussions and lets stay within these parameters for our conversation today.

First is the fact that God does not think the same way we think or act the way we do.

Isaiah 55:8-11 My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. (self explanatory, no need for further comment)

Second, God's word means what is says and will come to pass. (omnipotent)

10 For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, 11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, **But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.**

Matthew 5:18 (NASB)until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Psalms 119-160 The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.

Isaiah 46:10My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,'

Third, lets interpret God's Word by using the plain meaning of the text.

Luke 8:10, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that 'Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.

Daniel 12:10 Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.

A quote from John MacArthur in his book *The Second Coming*: "***The plain meaning of a text is the preferred interpretation.*** There's no reason to spiritualize or devise allegorical interpretations if the literal sense makes good sense. Only if the context of a passage gives some compelling reason to assume the language is symbolic should we look for figurative meaning. **Where the plain sense of Scripture makes good sense, there is no reason to seek any other sense.** (anything else is nonsense)

Proverb 8:8-9 All the utterances of my mouth are in righteousness; There is nothing crooked or perverted in them.⁹ ***They are all straightforward to him who understands, And right to those who find knowledge***

Fourth, we're not omniscient (all knowing) concerning the things of God and his ways

Psalms 139:6 (NIV) Such knowledge is ***too wonderful*** (incomprehensible, extraordinary) for me, ***too lofty*** for me to attain.

Job 26:14these ***are the mere edges of His ways***, And how ***small a whisper*** we hear of Him! But the thunder of His power who can understand?

1st Corinthians 13:12 ***Now we see things imperfectly*** as in a poor mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is ***partial and incomplete***, but then I will know everything completely, just as God knows me now.

Now that we set these parameters, let's try to explore some of the reason why God's Word is ineffective, powerless, insignificant or even obsolete to some:

The First reason why God's Word seems ineffective to so many is because of the **Lack Of Faith** that's required to activate God's Word:

Matthew 9:27-29 When Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, "Son of David, have mercy on us!" 28 And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "***Do you believe that I am able to do this?***" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." 29 Then He touched their eyes, saying, "***According to your faith let it be to you.***"

Mark 5:25-30, 34 Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, 26 And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, 27 When she heard about Jesus, she came behind ***Him*** in the crowd and touched His garment. 28 For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, ***I shall be made well.***" 29 Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in ***her*** body that she was healed of the affliction 30 And Jesus, immediately ***knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him***, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?" 34 And He said to her, "Daughter, ***your faith has made you well.*** Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."

Matthew 8:13 Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and *as you have believed, so let it be done for you.*".....

James 1:5-7 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But *let him ask in faith, with no doubting*, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 *For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;*

Jesus was ready, willing and able to help but there was one prerequisite necessary for Jesus to act, and that requirement was FAITH (**DO YOU BELIEVE THAT I AM ABLE TO DO THIS**).

If you want to be argumentative and say Jesus can do anything he wants to then be my guest, but the point Jesus is making then and to us now is "**according to your faith be it unto you**".

Notice that their healing was a result of their faith and belief in Christ:

- Their healing was not produced by works - but by FAITH
- Their healing did not come as a result of money - but by FAITH
- Their healing was not a byproduct of their social standing or position - only by FAITH
- Their healing did not take into account of who they knew - they only had to know JESUS

Please understand that Jesus deals with us according to the measure of our Faith. Jesus does not deal with us according to our profession. He deals with us according to our Faith. Remember "Without Faith it is impossible to please God....."(Heb 11:6)

Hebrews 11:1 (NLT) What is faith? It is the confident *assurance* that what we hope for is going to happen. It is the *evidence* of things we cannot yet see. (chapter 11 illustrates the actions of Old Testament saints that was produced by faith).

Please note: that faith is not wishful thinking. There is a huge difference between wishful thinking and being assured and having evidence albeit unseen.

Also note: that the type of faith that I'm talking about is the faith that comes from God. Anything other than that is wishful thinking.

Romans 12:3but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with *the measure of faith God has given you.*"

Daniel 3:17-18 If that *is the case*, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver *us* from your hand, O king. 18 **But if not**, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

The Second reason God's word is ineffective to some is simply because of **UNBELIEFE**:

The oldest tactic is Satan's arsenal is to get us to first question even the plain and simple meaning of God's Word which will eventually lead to us not believe what God says to be true.

Genesis 3:1-5 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "**Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?**" 2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; 3 but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die. 4 Then the serpent said to the woman, "**You will not surely die.** 5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

- Satan's first strategy was to infuse doubt and uncertainty when he said "**Has God indeed said**"
- Then Satan simply falsely quoted God's Word when he said "**You shall not eat of every tree of the garden**" - God said you shall eat of every tree "But of the fruit of the tree which [is] in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die"
- Satan's lie - "You will not surely die" and that what he does to this day God said "you will die & Satan said "you will not die"

Now let's relate this particular tactic that Satan uses to some of the Words of Jesus Christ.

John 15:1-6,11 I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 **EVERY** branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in Me, and I in you. **As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.** 5 I am the vine, **YOU ARE THE BRANCHES.** He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 **If ANYONE does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.**

In order not to misinterpret what Jesus is saying here lest go to the Greek words used for identification purposes; **Christ in this discourse identifies exactly who He's talking about.**

- v. 2 **EVERY** - Greek word is pas pronounced (pä's) - **1.** individually **a)** each, every, any, all, the whole, everyone, all things, everything **2.** collectively **a)** some of all types
- v. 5 We don't have to look any further than Jesus' own word to identify who the Branches are He's talking about in this discourse "**YOU ARE THE BRANCHES**"

- v.6 ANYONE (A MAN in the KJV) Greek word is tis pronounced (tēs) - a certain, a certain one . Anyone in any language means; anyone of YOU, anyone of US, anyone of THEM anyBODY
- ABIDE - Greek word is meno pronounced (me'-nō) - 1) to remain, not to depart, to continue to be present, to remain as one, not to become another or different

We have to remember and understand what Jesus said in Mark 13:37 "...what I say to you, I say to all!"