

FIRE BY NIGHT

"Reflections Upon Reflections" [of The Father's Heart]

...."You, in Your great compassion, did not forsake them in the wilderness; The pillar of cloud did not leave them by day, to guide them on their way, or the pillar of fire by night, to light for them the way in which they were to go".... Nehemiah 9:19 NASB

December 11th

THE GREAT IMPORTANCE OF FOCUSING ON THE JOY THAT HAS BEEN SET BEFORE US

Words of prophecy:

* *Disregard your present circumstances by "distancing" yourself from them [spiritually - through a perfect obedience in your thought-life] and focus on the joy [vision - dream - revelation] that I have set before you.*

The word above is an EXTREMELY IMPORTANT word as the Father continues to unfold His glorious plan in the lives of all those who are truly seeking first the Kingdom *[and entrance into the fullness of their Kingdom-position and destiny within]*. This particular word contains within it the spiritual principles that must become the center of our focus - as these various principles and instructions are the Father's perfect provision for His faithful ones to diligently "maintain" their "spiritual equilibrium" in the face of every "storm".

Here again is the word I was given:

* *Disregard your present circumstances by "distancing" yourself from them [spiritually - through a perfect obedience in your thought-life] and focus on the joy [vision - dream - revelation] that I have set before you.*

In this word, we see three distinct instructions:

1. "Disregard" your present circumstances.

In giving this instruction, the Father was not saying that we should try to "escape" our present circumstances - physically-speaking. It was an admonition to

"disregard" the Enemy's attempt to work through them - even though one may be surrounded by a number of adverse conditions *[financial pressures, health issues, an unfavourable work or church environment - and any other schemes of the Enemy's that are aimed at hindering one from entering into their Kingdom-position and destiny]*.

.... "we consider and look *[speak]* not to the things that are seen *[the lower reality - that which is real to the five physical senses]* but to the things that are unseen *[through faith in the higher Reality of God's Word]*; for the things that are visible are temporal (brief and fleeting) *[subject to change]*, but the things that are invisible are deathless and everlasting *[Eternal]*" 2 Corinthians 4:18 *The Amplified Translation*

2. by "distancing" yourself from them *[spiritually - through a perfect obedience in your thought-life]*.

The key in this whole matter of "distancing" ourselves from our present circumstances *[spiritually speaking]* is to be found faithful to bring EVERY thought captive to the revelation that is abiding in our heart. By this, I am speaking of the Word of God that has both entered into and produced much understanding within one's heart - a supernatural understanding and Wisdom *[the fruit of the indwelling Spirit of wisdom and revelation]* that the Enemy cannot "influence" in ANY way, as we are faithful to guard our heart with ALL diligence.

.... "We are *[continually]* destroying speculations *[worry, anxiety, reasonings, feelings etc.]* and every lofty thing raised up against the true knowledge of God *[and who we ALREADY are, in Christ]*, and we are taking EVERY thought captive *[through proclamation]* to the obedience of Christ *[a revelation of the Father's Will]*" 2 Corinthians 10:5 NASB

3. and "focus on the joy" *[vision - dream - revelation]* that I have set before you.

"glimpse" - a brief or incomplete view;

"cumulative" - growing in quantity, strength, or effect by successive additions or gradual steps;

The third aspect of this word was that we are to continually "focus on the joy" that has been set before us through the years. This "joy" we are to focus on

speaks again of the revelation [*vision, dreams - glimpses and their cumulative effect etc.*] we have been blessed with concerning both our calling and our positioning in the Body - as we have continued to seek after the true Christian life.

It is ONLY through "perfect focus" on a revelation of the Father's Word/Will that has entered fully into our heart that we are EMPOWERED TO ENDURE any present circumstances in preparation for entrance into [*and the fulfillment of*] our precious Kingdom-position and destiny, in Christ.

*...."let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us, and let us run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us, **Looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection]. He, for the joy [of obtaining the prize] that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising and ignoring the shame, and is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God [Ps. 110:1.]".... Hebrews 12:1-2 The Amplified Translation***

...."the joy of the Lord is your strength".... Nehemiah 8:10 NASB

...."When the LORD brought back the captive ones of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with joyful shouting; Then they said among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.' The LORD has done great things for us; We are glad..... Those who sow in tears shall reap with joyful shouting. He who goes to and fro weeping, carrying [his] bag of seed, shall indeed come again with a shout of joy, bringing his sheaves [with him.]".... Psalms 126:1-6 NASB

Prayer of Proclamation:

Heavenly Father, we thank You and praise You for the Kingdom-revelations that are coming forth from Your Throne Room in this most critical and glorious hour. We are truly a blessed [*divinely empowered and prospered*] people - true sons and daughters who are constantly gaining a deeper and deeper revelation of who we are IN Christ.

We thank You and praise You for all that You have revealed to us concerning the importance of maintaining a perfect focus in this hour - a perfect

focus that will surely empower us to reach the destination *[our true Kingdom-position and destiny]* You planned out for us from before the foundations of the earth.

We thank You and praise You, Father, that there is a place in Your Presence wherein we can always come to regain our "spiritual equilibrium" - a place that allows You to establish, perfectly, Your divine order and balance in our lives, with a view to us continually rising above each and every one of the Enemy's schemes.

We thank You and praise You that we are free from any form of "identity crisis" BECAUSE we find our identity in You *[our loving Father]* and in the Lord Jesus - Who became to us *[by Your doing]* ALL things.

We thank You and praise You that You have raised us up a people who have an "abiding" *[indwelling]* revelation of the importance of words and their place in helping us to overcome the fear-filled thoughts and lies of the Enemy at EVERY turn.

And, finally, we thank You for the ongoing and perfect preparation You have brought us through in order that we might step into the fullness of our precious Kingdom-position and destiny, in Christ - in this most critical and glorious hour in history. And we declare *[on an ongoing basis]* all of these things DONE, in Jesus' Name, to Your greatest Glory. Amen.

Quote: Fear knocked at the door, faith answered - and there was no one there.

*...."Then the Lord answered me and said, 'Record the vision and inscribe it on tablets, that the one who reads it may run. For the vision is yet for the appointed time; It hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; For it will certainly come, it will not delay. Behold, as for the proud one, his soul is not right within him; But the righteous will live by his faith'....
Habakkuk 2:2-4 NASB*