THE WORD OF GOD Oct. 20, 2019

VISIONING FOR REALITY

TEXT: EZEKIEL 12

"21 The word of the LORD came to Ezekiel: 22 "Son of man, what is this proverb you have in the land of Israel: 'The days go by and every vision comes to nothing'? 23 Say to them, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am going to put an end to this proverb, and they will no longer quote it in Israel.' Say to them, 'The days are near when every vision will be fulfilled. ²⁴ For there will be no more false visions or flattering divinations among the people of Israel. ²⁵ But I the LORD will speak what I will, and it shall be fulfilled without delay. For in your days, you rebellious people, I will fulfill whatever I say, declares the Sovereign LORD."

²⁸ "...None of my words will be delayed any longer; whatever I say will be fulfilled..."

Why is the vision not coming to pass? Ezekiel 13:1-7

¹The word of the LORD came to Ezekiel: ² "Son of man, ... Say to those who prophesy out of their own imagination: 'Hear the word of the LORD! ³ This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Woe to the foolish prophets who follow their own spirit and have seen nothing! ... 5 You have not gone up to the breaches in the wall to repair it for the people of Israel so that it will stand firm in the battle on the day of the LORD. ⁶ Their visions are false and their divinations a lie. Even though the LORD has not sent them, they say, "The LORD declares," and expect Him (God) to fulfill their words. ⁷ Have you not seen false visions and uttered lying divinations when you say, "The LORD declares," though I have not spoken?

Brethren, whether in ministry, our spiritual journey, our circular life or business, we (Christians) must take our vision very seriously.

God takes visioning very seriously In Joel 2:28, He says:

28And afterward, I will pour out My Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. **29**Even on My menservants and maidservants, I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

Proverbs 29:18 says:

¹⁸ Where there is no vision, the people perish.

Psalm 119:105

104"I gain understanding from Your precepts; therefore I hate every false way. **105**Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalm 43:3

O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.

Psalm 18:28

For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.

Habakkuk 2:3

For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. **Though it tarries, wait for it (be patience)**;

Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor has it entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." **But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.** For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

If God takes visioning so seriously, then we must also take it very seriously and be mindful that we do not set any vison (ministry, spiritual journey, circular life or business) without Him.

Bible says that, vision will not come to pass if it is:

- 1. Set based on our own imaginations (Ezekiel 13:1)
- 2. Set by following our own spirit (Ezekiel 13:3)
- 3. Blurred by our sin (Ezekiel 13:5, God said to Ezekiel "⁵ You have not gone up to the breaches in the wall to repair it.")
- 4. Surrounded by impatience (Habakkuk 2:3)

How, then, Do we Develop our Ability to Receive and Pursue God Given Vision?

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1. Stay away from sin (1 Thessalonians 5:22)

Isaiah 6:1-2 "In the year that King Uzziah died "I saw the Lord" sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew."

Isaiah said: "...I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips ..." (Isaiah 6:5).

There was sin under Uzziah but as soon as he died, Isaiah, a prophet, saw vision.

2. God used dreams to confirm Vision

Acts 16:9-10 "And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us. And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that

God had called us to preach the gospel to them."

- 3. Vision can come as a revelation through the angel that God sends during our retreat with Him Revelation 1:9-10 "I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet."
- 4. Same vision given to two people as confirmation Acts 9:10-12 "Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight."

5. Through a voice (to the Godly who clearly hears God) (Abraham, Moses, Jacob, Isaiah but also to Paul, Peter, John, etc.) Psalm 89:19 "Of old you spoke in a vision to your godly one, and said: "I have granted help to one who is mighty; I have exalted one chosen from the people."

6. In a trance during prayer time

Acts 11:5 "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me."

7. During sacrifice/fasting

Genesis 46:1- "So Israel took his journey with all that he had and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. And God spoke to Israel in visions of the night and said, "Jacob, Jacob." And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "I am God, the God of your father. Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for there I will make you into a great nation."

Conclusion

Vision is important
We must discipline ourselves to discover how God speaks to us.
Once we get the vision, we should pursue it until it comes to
pass

God bless you.

2019 PRAYER POINTS

- 1. Pray over today's message.
- 2. For KCM ask for grace to diligently fulfil its mandate as "the house of prayer for all nations" (Isaiah 56:7), extending God's love to all the nations.
- 3. Prayer for the Leaders of Nations
- 4. Thank God for stopping wars in nations.
- 5. Continue to ask God to have mercy on our land, forgive our sins & heal us (2 Chro, 7:13-18).
- 6. Pray for Ministers and Missionaries, their ministries and missions.
- 7. Pray for Marriages, Children and families. Restoration of troubled marriages & children family
- 8. Pray for Members of the fellowship
- 9. Pray for the needs of the members & the fellowship, and any special request.
- 10. Also pray for next Sunday.