

A More Sure Word

LESSON 9 – OUTLINE

- I. When I became baptized in the Holy Spirit and began to study the Word under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, I realized that angelic visitations, the audible voice of God, and supernatural unctions from the Lord didn't pass away with the apostles.
 - A. I started asking God questions like, "How come I've never had any of these kinds of supernatural things happen to me?"
 - B. Then the Lord showed me this truth about how Jesus didn't respond to John the Baptist on an emotional level, but used God's Word to raise him up to the level of speaking the Word to him because of His respect for him.
 - C. It's because He honored him so much, not because He honored him so little, that He referred him back to the Word.
 - D. I began to see that believing the Word of God is actually the highest way to respond to the Lord.
 - E. Once I understood this, I turned the other direction and prayed, "God, I want Your best. If it honors You more for me to just take Your Word and trust Your Word than to have a vision, for You to quicken Scripture to me and have that be the way I hear from You instead of hearing an audible voice or an angelic messenger, then I'll be glad to go that way."
- II. Satan can also appear in an angelic form (2 Cor. 11:14).
 - A. You can see and hear things that could lead you astray.
 - B. But if you go through the Word of God, you'll be safe.
 - C. The Word of God is the acid test for everything supernatural.
- III. You need to realize that the Lord may not have answered your prayer in the way you've been asking, because He has something better for you—because He loves you so much, not because He loves you so little.
 - A. It may be that He's trying to bring you up to a higher level of maturity.
 - B. He wants you to get beyond just an emotional level and learn to receive from Him through His Word.

- IV. In 2 Peter 1, the Apostle Peter was saying that he realized he was close to his death and therefore felt an urgency to remind the believers of the truths he had shared with them before.
- A. Peter talked about how that he saw Jesus radiate light.
 - B. He saw the glory cloud of God overshadow Him.
 - C. He heard an audible voice out of heaven, saying, “This is my beloved Son” (Matt. 17:1-9).
 - D. But then he said, “We have something better than all of this.”
 - E. What could be better than seeing the visible presence of God and hearing His audible voice?

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

2 Peter 1:20-21

- F. Peter said, “The most authoritative thing I could possibly share with you to validate the truth is the Word of God. The Word of God is greater than any other way to hear from God.”
 - G. Therefore, the Word of God is the strongest, most powerful way that we have to counter our fears and unbelief.
- V. The problem is, most people don't honor the written Word of God the way they would honor a prophecy or word of encouragement from a person, or some audible or visible sign.
- A. That's backward, and it's precisely the reason we have so much doubt.
 - B. The Lord will meet you where your faith is.
 - C. God has spoken to many people through different external ways.
 - D. I'm not against them.
 - E. I'm just saying that if you are more insistent, more desirous of a sign, an audible voice, a visible representation, something miraculous that will help you—that's just a temporary fix. Circumstances change.

- F. But if you would go to the Word of God, making it your absolute authority and viewing it as God speaking to you, then the Word will overcome any doubt you have.
 - G. God's Word will confirm everything you need to know.
- VI. That may not sound exciting, because you look at the Word of God as being lifeless, dead, and dry.
- A. That's because you haven't gotten sincere and serious enough to have the Holy Spirit quicken it to you.
 - B. But I tell you, God's Word is alive. It's powerful (Heb. 4:12).
 - C. A greater blessing and anointing would be released in your life if you could take the truths of God's Word by faith and say, "I believe this is God speaking to me. I've had it revealed to me by the Holy Spirit, and I don't have to have three goose bumps and two visions to confirm it. This is what God's Word says" (John 20:29).
- VII. The Word of God is a more sure word of prophecy than anything else you could ever get.
- A. If you would take God's Word, begin to meditate on it, let the Holy Spirit make direct application to your situation, and then act on it—that's the highest form of faith you can possibly have.
 - B. That's faith based entirely on God's Word alone.

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LESSON 9 – DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. Read 2 Corinthians 11:14. Who is transformed into an angel of light?
2. Read 2 Peter 1:12-21. Peter thought it was meet (right) to stir you up by putting you in what?
 - A. Condemnation
 - B. A new convertible
 - C. Remembrance
 - D. All of the above
 - E. None of the above
3. What had Peter not followed?
4. The prophecy came not by what?
5. Read Matthew 17:1-9. Jesus was _____ before them.
6. His face shined like what?
7. What was his raiment [clothing] white as?
8. What did the voice out of the cloud say?
 - A. “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear [listen to] him”
 - B. “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear [listen to] Me”
 - C. “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear [listen to] the angels sing”
 - D. “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear [listen to] the Law of Moses”
 - E. “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear [listen to] each other”
9. What did Jesus charge Peter, James, and John?
 - A. A fee for seeing His glory.
 - B. He told them not to tell anyone the vision they saw until He had risen from the dead.
 - C. He told them to proclaim the matter freely.
 - D. All of the above
 - E. None of the above
10. According to John 11:43-44, what happened when Jesus cried with a loud voice “**Lazarus, come forth?**”
11. Read Mark 10:46-52. Did blind Bartimaeus keep silent after many charged him?
12. What did Jesus do?

13. What did Jesus ask Bartimaeus?
14. Read Acts 3:6-8. Peter said, “**Such as _____ have.**”
15. According to John 20:25, Thomas told the disciples, “**Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I _____ not believe.**”
16. According to John 20:27-29, Thomas called Jesus what?
17. Who are blessed?
18. Read Hebrews 4:12. What does the Word of God pierce and divide asunder?
19. It is a discerner of what?

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LESSON 9 – SCRIPTURES

2 CORINTHIANS 11:14

And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

2 PETER 1:12-21

Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. [13] Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; [14] Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. [15] Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance. [16] For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. [17] For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. [18] And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. [19] We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: [20] Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. [21] For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

MATTHEW 17:1-9

And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, [2] And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. [3] And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. [4] Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. [5] While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. [6] And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid. [7] And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid. [8] And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only. [9] And as they came down from the

mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.

JOHN 11:43-44

And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. [44] And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.

MARK 10:46-52

And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging. [47] And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me. [48] And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me. [49] And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee. [50] And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus. [51] And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight. [52] And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

ACTS 3:6-8

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. [7] And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. [8] And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

JOHN 20:25

The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

JOHN 20:27-29

Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. [28] And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my

God. [29] Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

HEBREWS 4:12

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.