

Vision

Part 1: You Can't Have My Vision

- ❖ The thief presents himself (comes) for these reasons: John 10:10
 - To steal, kill, and destroy

- ❖ Vision is important
 - Perish when there is no vision - Pro. 29:18
 - God gave a vision of what we would be if we repented – Acts 2:38
 - God speaks to His prophets through visions – Num. 12:6
 - Vision will keep you encouraged in the midst of great challenges – Acts 18:9-10

- ❖ 5 Areas of your life the enemy tries to steal to keep you from your vision
 - Hearing
 - You must know what God is thinking concerning you – Jer. 29:11
 - The enemy will try to steal your ability to hear
 - By those speaking false visions – Jer. 23:16
 - By those trying to destroy those speaking for God to keep you from coming to faith – Rom. 10:13-15
 - Faith
 - The enemy knows it is how we please God – Heb. 11:6
 - He does not want you to believe God – Rom. 10:17; 2 Chr. 20:20; Heb. 10:35
 - Peace
 - Hab. 2:3
 - John 14:27
 - Num. 6:24-26
 - Phil 4:6-7
 - Have to arrest those things that try to disturb your peace – 2 Cor. 10:4-5; Eph. 4:27-30; Neh. 2:20
 - Joy
 - Jesus understood the importance of vision and saw a greater joy before Him – Heb. 12:2
 - We must learn to count it joy and stick to the vision – James. 1:2
 - Praise
 - 1 Pet. 2:9
 - The vision to take Jericho included their shout of praise – Jos 6

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Part 2: But for The Joy

- ❖ When we are not only convicted but convinced in faith, we are able to navigate challenges that we encounter
 - Note that Paul as Saul was first convicted – Acts 26: 9-15
 - He was then converted – Acts 26:16-18
 - He was then convinced – Acts 26:19-20; 2 Tim. 1:11-12

- ❖ It is when we are completely surrendered to the will of God on our lives
 - We submit to the process that God oversees – James 1:2-4
 - We remain productive and walk in love in the midst of our circumstances because it is the will of God – John 15:8-14
 - We keep coming because we know what's on the other side of what we must come over – Rom. 8:18
 - The wise men pursued the star and rejoiced when it led them to Jesus – Mat. 2:1-10

- ❖ So how did Jesus accomplish His purpose?
 - The vision was set before Him
 - Prokeimai: to lie or be placed before; met. to be proposed or set before, as a duty, example, reward, etc.,; to be at hand, be present, 2 Cor 8:12 (Mounce Concise Greek-English Dictionary)
 - We as believers aren't grasping for air but clinging to the promises of God revealed unto us – Heb 6:18; Heb 12:1-2
 - Endured the cross, despising the shame – Phil. 2:8

Recapping this Sunday's Sermon Points on Joy

1. Joy is available – Luke 4:18-21
2. We have to keep moving if we are to realize joy – Exo. 14:13-16 (KJV and MSG)
3. Things won't always be like they are now – Psa. 30:5
4. There will be glory after this – Heb. 12:1-3; 1 Cor. 2:6-11; Rom. 8:18; 1 Pet. 5:1-11

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Part 3: You Wouldn't Understand

- ❖ Some ways that vision can be blocked
 - Vision blocked by vain religion
 - Causes the Word to not work in our lives – Mark 7:13
 - Vision blocked by lack of understanding
 - Must understand grace – Eph. 2:8; 1 Cor. 6:11-13
 - Must understand that God's vision is unlimited and expansive
 - Unlimited possibilities
 - Expansive for the scope of who He can use
 - ◆ Used Noah – vision of flood – Heb. 11:7; Gen. 6:6-16
 - ◆ Used Rahab – vision of scarlet cloth – Heb. 11:31; Jos. 2:9; Jos. 6:23
- ❖ God's Gracious Intervention
 - God gracious intervention is an indicator of the magnitude He wants to use you
 - Sometimes we beat the one with who is protecting you – Num. 22:21-39
 - If the intercessor could talk like the donkey – vs. 28-30
 - When you finally see what God has kept you from – vs. 31-39
 - God will use your friends – Pro. 27:6
 - A Damascus Road Experience – Acts 9

Recapping this Sunday's Sermon – Acts 9:10-17

- ❖ Every vision is not easy to receive
 - Causes us to question the vision
 - We have to ask the Lord to help us with it – Psa. 119:18; Mat. 7:7
- ❖ The vision you are struggling with may well lead thousands to Christ if you obey Him in it – Acts 26:19
- ❖ Vision requires faith and obedience
 - Fear will try to keep you from obeying – Acts 9:13-14
 - Faith in God will cause you to move forward in spite your carnal reservations – 2 Cor. 5:17
- ❖ God is working things for your good even while you don't understand
 - Ananias Ananias (whom Jehovah has graciously given)

- Obviously has relationship with the Lord and can discern His voice – John 10:27
 - When the Lord called Him, He answered: “I’m Here Lord...” – Acts 9:10
- The Assignment: lay hands on Saul
 - I’ve prepared him – he’s blinded, he’s praying, he’s seen you – Acts 9:11-12
- The Questioning – Acts 9:13-14 – Saul has a bad rep
- The Reason God sent you
 - He chose you to prepare the chosen – Acts 9:15
 - He has equipped you with the Holy Ghost – Acts 9:17
 - You will yield and make God’s way your way – Acts 9:15; Rom. 1:1
 - You have the capacity to not only lay hands but to lay hold of your brother – Acts 9:17
- Saul has been blinded on the road to Damascus
 - Blinded him from the vision he was sent to carry out in order to bring him into the vision he was to live out
 - Blinded yet can now see a vision from God
 - Saul was told in the vision he would receive his sight but God had more in mind than just sight – THE HOLY GHOST
 - ◆ The next vision won’t come because God had to blind you Saul. It will come because you have the Holy Ghost to reveal God’s plan unto you – 1 Cor. 2:9-10
- ❖ Stop waiting for folk to understand – just touch those God sent you to touch
 - Brother Saul – A true sign of obedience to God is receiving those God receives – 1 John 3:14; Acts 10:15
 - As Ananias lays hands, he provides clarity and enlightens Saul (vs. 17)
 - Something like scales fall off, he receives sight and is baptized – vs. 18

