

KINGDOM ADVANCING PRAYER

Mark: 1:35 & Matt: 11: 11-12

From the desk of Elder Michael Scantlebury

Faith or Fear - Controlling What We Speak - Part Two

In this letter I would like for us to conclude the whole issue of the power of words and how we can control what we speak. As we look at in last week's letter, we realize that death and life are in the power of our tongue and that the "world" in which we live are being shaped by the words that we speak and confess.

"And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak." 2 Corinthians 4:13

FOUR PRINCIPLES FOR CONFESSING GOD'S WORD

1. To bring God on the scene.
 2. To increase/bring faith/direction/future.
 3. To enlist the forces of God - Angels.
 4. To defeat the devil.
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1. Confessing God's Word Brings God On The Scene!
 - A. Confessing/Speaking/Preaching God's Word is God's will for your life.
 - B. God sent His Word and Performs His Word.
 1. His Word is alive and active (Hebrews 4:12), accomplishing what its sent out to do (Isaiah 55:11).
 2. God Himself watches over His Word (Jeremiah 1:12) and confirms it (Mark 16:20) by doing His Word (James 1:22).
 - a. God didn't do a thing until they preached the Word.
 - b. Signs don't follow an individual; they follow the Word.
 - c. Don't follow signs. Signs follow the Word!
 - d. Give the Word out and the signs will take care of themselves.
 - C. God always shows up IN HIS WORD (John 1:1-4,14)
 1. When we testify to what God has done for us, we glorify Him.
 2. When we talk about what the devil is doing, and we list our failures/defeats we glorify him.
 3. A confession that glorifies the devil is an unconscious declaration that God is a failure!
 4. A confession that glorifies the devil destroys our faith and holds us in bondage - i.e. confessing fear. 2 Timothy 1:7 says fear is not of God, therefore we should confess that God has given us a spirit of love, power and a sound mind.
 2. Confessing God's Word Brings/Increases Faith, Which Leads To Action/Direction/Future.
 - A. God has given us the responsibility to build our lives. (Proverbs 14:1; Matthew 12:33)
 1. Matthew 7:24 encourage us to hear and DO the Word! What we hear determines what action we should take. Jesus declared that we are WISE when we HEAR and DO HIS SAYINGS!

2. Remember the principle, "Believe in the heart then CONFESS with the mouth" - We'll never do before we speak. Joshua 1:8; James 3.
3. 2 Corinthians 4:13 declares that the Spirit of faith (like Paul) = first believe then speak/confession...then we'll DO!
4. We'll never grow beyond our confession.
5. Faith never grows beyond our confession.
6. Faith's confession creates reality.

B. The "spirit of fear" is rooted in satan and the world that is "LIMITED!!!"

- a. The "spirit of the world" is rooted in a "limited" mentality.
- b. What we see is all that we have to work with.
- c. "There are only so many jobs/opportunities and if someone else gets one, there's less for us."
- e. "There is only so much food so if we eat some, somebody else will go without."
- f. "There is only so much money and if we get more, then someone else gets less."

C. The "Spirit of faith" is rooted in God who is "UNLIMITED!!!"

- a. God is working through us to "bring forth" THINGS that we don't yet see - above and beyond! Look, the universe is still expanding! HE can still make rivers in the desert and a way in the wilderness!
- b. There is an unlimited number of jobs/opportunities that have not yet been thought of.
- c. There is more food and ways to produce it that has not yet been tapped into.
- d. There is an unlimited supply of wealth and the Lord is showing us ways to tap into it. He still owns the earth and everything in it. The cattle on a thousand hills belong to Him; ALL the gold and silver belong to HIM!!!

D. To talk in line with lack is not faith.

E. Speaking words of faith increases our life.

3. Confessing God's Word Enlists The Forces Of Heaven On Our Behalf - Angels.

- A. All heaven is tuned to the "VOICE" of God's Word - Hebrews 1:14 – "Are they [Angels] not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister *for [on behalf of]* those [us] who will inherit salvation?"
 1. The angels HEED His Word when we speak it. (Psalms 103:20,21)
 2. God's AUTHORITY is in His Word.
 - a. The Word, spoken by faith releases God's authority to bring it to pass.
 - b. God wants to move powerfully on our behalf.
 3. He is looking for a loyal/perfect heart to show Himself strong on behalf of. (2 Chronicles 16:9)
 - a. Out of the abundance or overflow of our hearts, our mouth speaks. (Matthew 12:34)
 - b. Perfect tongue = perfect man - James 3:2
 - c. When we speak God's Word in faith, all heaven moves on our behalf!

4. Confessing God's Word Defeats The Devil

1. Jesus used the Word to defeat the devil. (Matthew 4:4,7,10). God's Word is our only weapon. (Ephesians 6:17)
 - a. The entrance of "Light" drives out and brings to an end the darkness. (Psalms 119:130)
 - b. Have a relationship with God's Word (The Truth) and you will be SET free! (John 8:31,32)
2. God's Word Is Our Two-Edged Sword "COMING OUT OF OUR MOUTH!!!" Not Just Silent In Our Head.

- a. The devil can't read your mind, but he can hear your words.
- b. James 4:7 "resist the devil and he will flee". One of the ways that we resist the devil is by doing like Jesus and SPEAK the WORD!!! We do not resist him by throwing a pity party or by wishful thinking – SPEAK THE WORD, IT IS WRITTEN!!!

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