

THE SPIRIT OF FAITH

While We Look Not At

I. The spirit of faith doesn't pay any attention to how it feels or what it perceives with the senses-2

Corinthians 4:18

- A. People with the spirit of don't direct their attention to, fix their eyes on, consider, contemplate, or pay attention to what they perceive with the senses, what they see, or how they feel – They don't pay attention to what it looks like or how they feel
1. Paul has got to be having some feelings and he's got to be seeing some stuff that doesn't look real good, but he pays no attention to it
 - a. **Look**-Direct one's attention to, fix one's eyes on, consider, take heed (pay attention), to mark, contemplate
 - b. **Seen**-Of the bodily eye, to perceive by the senses, to feel, to perceive by use of the eyes
 2. If it doesn't look like it's working, if it doesn't feel like it's getting better, if what they see with their eyes is telling them that the situation isn't changing, that they're never going to win, that they're never going to be free, that they're never going to overcome, here's what the spirit of faith does with that – **IT DOESN'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO IT** --- If the spirit of faith doesn't feel healed, feel strong, feel courageous, feel joyous, here's what the spirit of faith does with that --- **IT DOESN'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO IT** --- If the spirit of faith feels like quitting, giving up, not living by faith, not walking in love, here's what the spirit of faith does with that – **IT DOESN'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO IT**
- B. We don't pay attention to what we can perceive with the senses **because** the things that we can perceive with the senses are fleeting and brief and changing, but the things we can't see are never changing; this word isn't changing, God isn't changing, who I am in him and what I have in him isn't changing and it doesn't matter what my senses have to say about that (*EX: I'm rich and I'll always be rich and I'm not paying attention to something temporal trying to tell me I'm not*)
1. Things that you can see with your physical eye and perceive with your senses are temporal
 - a. **Temporal**-For a season, Enduring only for a while, Temporary, Short-term, fleeting, passing, brief, being changed soon
 - b. Circumstances that oppose the Word are subject to change; If you can see it and it's not in line with God's word, it's subject to change
 2. God's word is eternal (**Eternal**-That which always has been and always will be)
 - a. I have been and always will be healed, free, rich, victorious, full of joy and peace, strong, wise and what I see or how I feel will never change that

- C. People with the spirit of faith direct their attention to, fix their eyes on, consider and pay attention to what they can't feel or see
1. **When what I see and feel doesn't line up with the Word I turn my attention to what I can't see and feel**
 - a. You can't see it with your physical eye or feel with your senses, but you've turned your attention to it and fixed your eyes on it
 2. **What he sees and feels is death and pressure and affliction but he ain't looking at that; he's looking at we having the same spirit of faith according as it is written we also believe and therefore speak knowing that he that raised Jesus will raise us up**
 - a. 14-He can't see this, but he's looking at, he's fixed his eyes on it, turned his mind on it
- D. *There are two big questions you have to answer when it comes to the spirit of faith: Who are you looking to? What are you looking at?
1. Are you looking at and thinking about the evil report, how things haven't been changing, how the situation has not gotten better, how it doesn't look like it's working, how you don't feel like continuing stand, how things are so bad and so hard?
 2. **Prov4:20-Can you direct your attention where you choose? Your mind is your mind you can think on what you choose to think on; Your eyes are your eyes and you can look at what you choose to look at; Your ears are your ears and you can listen to what you choose to listen to**
 - a. Attend to my words-Isaiah 26:3-You can think on and pay attention to what you choose to
 - b. Incline your ear unto my sayings-You can listen to what you choose to
 - c. Let that not depart from your eyes-Hebrews 12:2-You can look where you choose to look
 - d. **You want to know what you're truly paying attention to? What have you been thinking about? What have you been taking about? What have you been listening to? What have you been looking at? Has it been the Word?**
 3. Many are paying more attention to what they see and how they feel (the seen) than they are the unseen (The Word)
 - a. **Most are talking about how they feel and what they see and it's detrimental to their faith**
 - b. **You ignore stuff all the time and don't pay attention to it all; Why don't you do that with what you see and how you feel?**

II. We walk by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7)

- A. We're not supposed to regulate and conduct our life based on what we see or how we feel or what we perceive with the senses
1. **Walk**-To regulate one's life, to conduct one's life – **Sight**-Perceive with the eyes, Perceive by any of the senses
 2. We are not to be moved by what we perceive with the senses

- B. What we see with our eyes, what we feel, what we perceive with the senses doesn't determine the conduct of our lives; it doesn't move us
 - 1. What we believe and what we see won't always line up; when that happens we conduct our lives based on what we believe and ignore what we see
 - 2. If what I see doesn't line up with what they Word says it doesn't move me
- C. Live and conduct your life based on what you believe from the Word and not based on what you see or how you feel
 - 1. EX: An orchestra doesn't move until the conductor move; in the same way only the Word moves us and nothing else

III. You can't pay attention to what you see and how you feel and walk by faith because if you pay attention to what you see and how you feel you're going to be moved by it and walk by sight

- A. If you direct your attention to, fix your eyes on, consider and pay attention to things which are seen (what you perceive with the senses, to how you feel, to what you see with your eyes) then you are going to be moved by what you see
 - 1. Romans 8:5-If you mind what you see and you feel, then you're going be moved by what you see and how you feel
 - 2. **Whatever you direct your attention to, fix your eyes on, consider and pay attention to is what's going to move you**
 - a. **If you look at the seen and pay attention to the seen you will be moved by the seen**
 - b. **If I look at it, it will move me, so I'm not looking at it (Numbers 13-Joshua and Caleb saw what they saw, but they didn't look at it)**
- B. Whatever you neglect and don't pay attention to you're going to harden yourself to
 - 1. You can harden yourself to the voice of God if when he speaks you pay no attention to what He says; If God speaks and you ignore him and this keeps happening eventually you'll become hardened to His voice and He'll still be speaking, but you won't hear Him b/c you're hardened; You won't be sensitive to what He's saying (what he says won't move u)
 - 2. When you're hardened to His voice it means His speaking doesn't move you; You're not sensitive to what He's saying or moved by it
- C. What you look at it, pay attention to and yield to, you're going to be most sensitive to
 - 1. Your feelings and what you perceive with your senses can become the biggest thing in your life; they carry more weight than the word
 - a. EX: Somebody will speak the Word to you and it will mean nothing to you, while your feelings govern you)
 - 2. You can become desensitized to the Word and become ultra-sensitive your senses

- D. Believers have become overdeveloped in their sensitivity to their feelings and their senses and what they see; That means we have been too moved by what we see and how we feel and if we are moved by those things we are walking by sight and not walking by faith
1. If you ignore the Word and pay attention to what you see and how you feel you are developing yourself in the walk of sight
 2. The walk of sight is a defeated one; you can't walk by sight and when; you can't be moved by what you see and how you feel and walk in victory; IT CAN'T HAPPEN-2 Corinthians 5:7, 1 John 5:4
- E. The way to not be moved by what you see and feel is to pay no attention to it
1. Whatever you pay attention to is going to move you, whatever you don't pay attention to you'll be hardened to and it won't move you
 2. You can harden yourself to how you feel and what you see and become a rock in that you are not moved by those things; You can become calloused to how our feel and what you see to the place that it will not effect you
- F. People with the spirit of faith are hardened to their senses and feelings (That simply means those things don't move them)
1. **People with the spirit of faith have a disregard and disesteem for what they see and how they feel**
 2. Satan works on the level of your senses and feelings and when he starts working on those areas you're supposed to not be moved
 3. You can become a rock, immovable, unchangeable if you'll look at the right thing (the unseen)
 - a. Isaiah 50:7, 7:4-Jesus set his face like flint (rock) and God told us don't be fainthearted (soft)
 - b. 1 Corinthians 15:58-Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord
 - c. 1 Peter 5:9-Whom resist steadfast in the faith (*Whatever the enemy throws your way resist without moving*)
 - d. Hebrews 10:23-Let us hold fast to the confession of our faith without wavering (firm, immovable)
 4. Isaiah 41:10 (AMP)-Hardened to difficulties will come by not paying attention to them
- G. Romans 4:16-21
1. **Considered**-To consider attentively, to fix the eyes or mind upon
 - a. He sees both their bodies everyday, but he ain't looking at them; if he looks at it, he'll be moved by it
 - b. Considering what you see and how you feel weakens your faith; Not looking at will strengthen your faith
 2. He didn't stagger at the promise (waver), because he wouldn't look at what he saw

- a. He was strong in faith because he looked at what he couldn't see (18-According to that which was spoken)