

What Are You Expecting?

Miracles are hindered - because of what the Bible calls – the lack of faith – or unbelief.

*When Paul prayed for the Church at Ephesus in Eph 1:16-20 –
He is praying for:*

“wisdom, revelation, knowledge, and understanding.....”.

“so that they - the Ephesians (and we) can understand all that we have received as our inheritance as saints.”

“the power – the mighty working power” that we can walk in as saints.”

“so we can understand all that Christ has provided.”

Unbelief - Matthew 17:14-20 - is a story about unbelief – the disciple’s inability to cast out a demon, and Jesus healing the demon possessed boy because the disciples could not.

The problem was with the faith of the disciples, not with the father of the boy. Jesus went and performed the miracle because the disciples could not.

At first glance it may appear that the demon is the focal point of this account, but a closer look will reveal that the real challenge or opposition in this story is not the demon but the spirit of unbelief.

The disciples were concerned about the demon inside the boy, but Jesus was concerned about the unbelief inside His disciples.

Luke 8:49-55 – Jesus healed the Ruler’s daughter

Jesus had just said “only believe”.

In verse 51 He knew there was a problem with their belief. – He only allowed the parents and the disciples to go in with him to the child’s room that the miracle was performed.

In verse 53 – everyone else was ridiculing him. He didn’t allow them in. There was unbelief – so Jesus dealt with that first – and sent the unbelieving ridiculers outside.

Mark 6:1-6 A Prophet Without Honor

Jesus couldn’t do any miracles there except a few (maybe the few that came from out of town.)

*He was received as the carpenter’s son.
Not the Messiah. Not the Son of God.*

*They didn't believe in him. They didn't honor him.
Unbelief was the hindrance to what could have happened.
Unbelief hinders Jesus Christ's miracles*

Acts 9:38-41 – Disciples ran into unbelief.

*Peter was expecting something so Peter took care of first things first and sent them all out of the room. Then he prayed for her – and she was healed.
Unbelief or Lack of Faith was removed and Faith was put into action.*

Hebrews 3:7-20 – Warning Against Unbelief

*Lack of Faith is equated as Unbelief – as sin. It's Synonymous.
Unbelief affects the outcome of a situation.*

What does unbelief look like? In James 1:8 it says: "A double minded man is unstable in all his ways."

There were miracles that could not be done because of unbelief - lack of faith.

That is double-mindedness – and it is called sin.

Revelation - A necessary ingredient

Romans 10:17 says So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

That word - it's a word that is taken into the heart. Or into the spirit of man. It's revelation.

And when that kind of – knowledge - revelation – has become more than - head knowledge, it's what we call - heart knowledge.

So heart knowledge is revelation.

I can say "by the stripes of Jesus I have been healed, but if I haven't received a revelation, or have that in my heart, it isn't going to do anything".

How we get our heart from a state of unbelief – to belief.

The father that cried out for Jesus to deliver his child from the demons that threw him into the fire and said, "Lord I believe, but help my unbelief."

In other words – Lord I believe in you – please help me not to fall into the weakness or spirit of unbelief (sin) when my faith wavers.

How we get that revelation.

Paul's prayer for the church of Ephesus was –

*not that they would have more of the HS, or of God,
but to have a revelation of what they already have.
that the eyes of their understanding be enlightened.*

Paul told them they already have everything they needed, and his prayer was that the spirit of God would make it real to them.

The HS has to make it real – to give revelation to those that – desire – choosing to believe.

Thinking versus knowing

In Matthew 8:2 – there was a leper that came to Jesus that had a revelation of what Jesus could do for him. “If you will, you can make me whole. Jesus’ reply was: I will”.

There was no unbelief or waver of faith here.

You can tell what people believe when they pray.

If they are asking God to heal them, then they don’t believe that God has healed them.

If they are thanking God for healing them - even though they haven’t seen it manifested, then they do believe they are healed.

The key is – if we are walking by sight – then we are not walking by faith.

If we are going to walk by faith – it is faith in what God has already done.

Hebrews 11:6 says “Believe when you pray.”

Mark 11:23,24 says “when you pray - believe that you receive and you shall have it”.

Covenant

Our healing has been provided in the covenant.

In the Old Testament, God established a covenant with Abraham.

That blood covenant blessing of Abraham failed because of disobedience of the children of Israel.

God then re-established that same blood covenant – a better covenant - as a promise of blessing for us – purchased and paid for by the sacrificed blood of Jesus for our salvation.

Now the OT promises belong to us as well as the NT promises because it was fulfilled by Jesus on the cross.

Gal 3:13 This covenant is a promise of blessing, it came with our salvation, and it is binding and eternal.

2 Cor 1:20 “says all promises are yes and amen.”

Confession

Revelation is having the assurance that "God's got this". Asking, speaking, expecting.

Even David said "he encouraged himself in the Lord". Ps 103, 113:7 and 62:11 He spoke out what he believed.

We have to stop basing our faith on our feelings and get a revelation.

Truth doesn't change. So say what God says.

Hold fast to your confession.

Peter's confession was "thou art the Christ" and that revelation was the building block of his future exploits for the Lord.

Circumstances and Confession

Our confession will be our detriment or our benefit.

Matt 12:36,37 says "that our words justify and condemn".

That clarifies the power of our words - which influences our thinking – setting things into motion.

Don't change your confession because your circumstances change.

Don't let circumstances dictate your belief system.

If you abide in Christ, your circumstances will not matter.

Confront the circumstance (sickness/disease) with the word.

When you start quoting scripture, you need to believe what you are quoting.

Grace and the Name of Jesus - How it affects our thinking, speaking, and revelation.

The Gift of Grace is that is given to us by God the Father is - the "Word."

The Word - that came and dwelled among us – Jesus – full of grace and truth.

The Father gave us Jesus.

Then the Father gave Jesus a name that is above all names.

Not only that – Father God has given us - the name of Jesus to use in authority.

The Bible says in Ps 138:2 – "God magnified the word – Jesus - above all names."

The gospel of John says – "Jesus is the word."

When I speak the Word – my words have power.

Matt 18:19 says "if two agree and it shall be done"

John 16:24 says "my father will give you whatsoever you desire"

I John 15:4,5 says "If you abide in me and my words in you, ask what you will, it will be done unto you".

I John 5:14,15 says "if we ask any thing according to his will, he hears us: And if we know that he hear us,...we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

Matt 12:36,37 says "Our words justify and condemn".

Prov. 18:21 says "Life and death are in the power of the tongue."

Revelation

When Peter and John went to the temple and healed the beggar – they said – "silver and gold have I none – but this that I have – receive in the name of Jesus. The revelation of what they had – and the authority they had because of the name – was enough to bring healing to that man - in the name of Jesus. Just like God gave the disciples the name of Jesus, God has given us the name of Jesus.

God has given us Jesus sacrifice, the shedding of his blood, the stripes on his back.

He has given us all these things. He isn't going to give us more, because everything has been done.

The only way to appropriate this is by revelation - Faith - to believe it's already ours.

We need to understand the transition from unbelief to faith is a supernatural transformation.

This transformation comes from a renewing of the mind.

When we get to the place that we know that God has provided it all - it's all we need.

We do our part – God does His part.

How I know for sure it's for me.

We have the word.

We know that we can pray and fast to overcome unbelief.

We have the authority to speak the name of Jesus.

We have a revelation of faith that God has already provided our healing and it is available for us now.

But we also have the promise that came with the covenant – our inheritance.