

I KNOW NOT A MAN

I. Lk 1:26-35 Read

A. Many times God speaks to us thru:

1. Rhema promise from the scriptures, vision, dream, prophesy, preaching, teaching
 - a. Our reaction to The Word of The Lord is like Mary's was: VS 34 "**I KNOW NOT A MAN**"

B. We make the mistake of Prv 3:5 "lean not on your own understanding"

1. God speaks and we then try to rationalize, plot, and plan how we can bring to pass what God spoke to us
 - a. **We look to man** to bring to pass what God spoke, instead of **looking to The Lord**

C. We need to take the counsel of King Hezekiah in 2 Chron 32:8

1. "**with us is The Lord our God to help us**"

- a. Walking in The Spirit and by Faith does not depend on the "**arm of flesh**"

II. Man has constantly fell for the temptation of trying to help God bring to pass what He has promised:

- A. Abraham birthed an Ishmael
- B. Moses moved in the flesh & killed an Egyptian trying to prove his calling
- C. Peter cut off the ear of a soldier, trying to bring deliverance & denied The Lord three times
- D. Jacob deceived his father and robbed his brother Esau of his birthright & blessing of the first born
1. I am confident that we can add our name to this list, of attempting to help God on bringing to pass His promise in our own strength

2. We like Jacob will go thru a process of brokenness

- a. Jacob wrestled with The Angel of The Lord & was asked: **What is your name?** (Gen 32:27)
- b. The Angel knew who he was wrestling with:

(1) The word "**name**" means character: The Angel was asking Jacob: "**What is your character ?**"

3. Jacob then goes on to place named: **Jabbok Def to empty**

- a. Now that Jacob was empty of his old nature: sup-planter / deceiver....he then was able to restore the broken relationship with his brother Esau

4. God takes us thru a similar in birthing our dreams & promises that He speaks into our life

E. Mary started out leaning on her own understanding: I know not a man" But; she did not stay there

1. she responded: Lk 1:38 "**Let it be to me according to thy word**"

- a. The angel told Mary that her cousin Elizabeth who was known for being barren was now pregnant

(1) The angel told Mary: "**For with God nothing shall be impossible**"

(2) Matt 19:26 "**With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible**"

(a) Don't fall into doubt & unbelief

(b) Don't lean upon your own understanding

(c) Don't look unto man

(d) rather receive the word God speaks into your life and respond as Mary did:

(1) Lk 1:38 "**Let it be to me according to thy word**"

2. Elizabeth told Mary: Lk 1:45 "**Blessed** is she who believed, for there will be a **fulfillment** of those things which were told her from The Lord"

a. The **results of receiving / believing** what God speaks into your life is: **fulfillment of the promise**

III. The word of The Lord / Promise of God comes to pass in God's timing....not ours

A. Gal 4:4 "when the **fullness of the time was come**, God sent forth His Son"

1. Lk 9:51 "**It came to pass, when the time was come** that He should be received up"

2. 1 Peter 5:6 "exalt you in due season / time....proper time"

B. We have to receive the word God speaks into our life....believe the word spoke into our life, and go Thru a process of being developed by the Spirit of God

1. It is important that we understand the **seasons of the word of The Lord** sent into our life

a. This will give us understanding of what God is doing

b. and a proper understanding of the time to birth the promise

IV Jn 5:1-7 Note vs 7 “**I have no man**”

- A. Jesus sent a Rhema word to this man: it was the key for him to receive his miracle
1. Ps 107:20 “He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction”
 - a. As God sent His word to Israel...as The Angel sent The word of The Lord to Mary, As Jesus sent the word into the man who laid by the pool: He sends His word into our life
 2. When Jesus asked this man if he would be made whole, he looked to man to bring to pass the promise of God and responded:
 - a. So Jesus sent this man another Rhema word: vs 8 “Rise, take up thy bed and walk”
 - b. This time instead of looking to man...he responded by faith to the word of The Lord (1) vs 9 “Immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed and walked”
- B. Will your response be like that of Mary:
1. **ACCORDING TO YOU WORD BE IT UNTO ME**
 2. will your response be like this man by the pool
 - a. who quit looking at his impossible situation...threw away all his excuses & did not look to man (1) Rather receive The word God speaks into your life and **Rise up and walk by faith**
- C. **We must change our focus from the natural to the supernatural:** Heb 11:1
1. 2 Cor 4:18 put our eyes on the eternal word of God, not temporary circumstances that we face
- D. Like Mary, we must learn how God speaks into our life:
1. Rom 4:17 God, who gives life to the dead, and calls those things which do not exist as though they did”
 2. However the Word of The Lord comes into our life, be it: scriptures, preaching, teaching, visions, dreams, prophecies we must receive The word according to:
 - a. 1 Thess. 2:13 “you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe

V. **What has paralyzed you in life?**

- A. God has been faithful in sending His word into your life, yet you sit paralyzed by your circumstances
1. instead of Receiving The word
 2. Believing The Word
 3. Stepping out in faith on The Word
- B. Isa 55:11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth (**Rhema Word**); It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.
1. Jer 1:12 Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it." NASU
 - a. The Lord is watching for those who will :
 - #1 Receive The Word
 - #2 Believes The Word
 - #3 Steps out in faith on The Word
 - b. or in other words responds like Mary: “**LET IT BE TO ME ACCORDING TO THY WORD**”