

Meditation Revelation

Revelation Time! Are you ready? Look at Joshua 1:8 with me. I want to show you something that jumped out at me about what happens when we meditate on the Word of God.

“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.”

For years I have understood this scripture was telling me to meditate on the Word so I could DO what it said to do. In other words if I meditate on God’s Word then I can do it and be successful. I don’t think that is what it is saying and I have other scriptures that I think support what I am about to tell you. Stick with me, I want to show you something.

Isn’t it funny how WE always think that WE must DO something? I believe God desires to DO something THROUGH us as we OBEY Him. There is really very little we can do and one of those few things is to meditate on His Word and watch Him do the rest.

Here is what I believe that scripture is saying to us; As you consistently, faithfully (day and night) meditate on My Word (being obedient) you will observe yourself automatically doing according to all that is written in it. As you observe yourself doing My Word it will make your way prosperous and successful.

If we think we have to “DO” we seem to end up trying to do more than “meditate”. As we see our failure in apply-ing or “DOING” God’s Word we become discouraged and many times quit trying all together. I hear people say things like; “The Word just doesn’t seem to WORK FOR ME”. The truth is It can not work for you when you are trying to work it.

God wants to do for us but He can’t because we do not flow with Him or cooperate with Him consistently in our everyday lives. This happens because, quite frankly, we don’t know Him well enough. The only way to get to know Him well enough is to meditate on His Word day and night.

To meditate means to focus ones thoughts on; to reflect on or ponder over. To reflect on or ponder over can in-volve speaking, muttering, musing and even singing. In other words it means to consciously put your mind and mouth to work on something. The Lord knows our minds are always working over something and our mouth is always . . . well you know what our mouth is capable of doing and the Lord is telling us He desires to do some-thing for us that will make us prosperous and give us good success.

Another scripture that I believe supports this way of looking at Joshua 1:8 is Psalm 1:1-3;

“Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in it’s season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.”

Now look at Psalm 1 real careful. Does it say that when you meditate on God’s Word day and night you shall work to produce fruit? No it says you will be like a tree and just produce fruit and always look good in the process. Does a tree WORK to produce fruit or does it just produce fruit effortlessly because that is what it is designed to do and because it is receiving plenty of nourishment? The only trees that do not produce good quality and a good quantity of its fruit are those trees that are deprived the proper quantity and quality of nourishment.

The Body of Christ is not failing to produce the proper quantity or quality of fruit because of the lack of efforts but because of the lack of proper, consistent nourishment. The majority of Believers try to function on one or at the most two meals a week— Sunday AM and Wednesday PM. How would your physical body function if you ate twice a week and in some cases the meal may not even be balanced or filling.

The Word does not say that if you go to church Sunday AM and attend Bible Study Wednesday PM it will make your way prosperous and successful. We gather together in order to encourage one another, to praise and worship God corporately and out of obedience to God's command for us as His body (Hebrews 10:25). However He has also called us to produce fruit— fruit that will last (John 15:16). In fact He says that if we don't produce fruit we are in dangerous territory (John 15:2). This might be a revelation to some; **Going to church is NOT producing fruit.** Therefore, let us look at HOW to produce fruit or better yet WHO produces the fruit.

John 15:5 ***"I Am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for with-out Me you can do nothing."***

From John 15:5 it is pretty obvious that fruit will only be produced as we abide in Him. That is where we will get our nourishment so we can produce. However, look a bit deeper and you will notice who does the actual work of fruit production. Remember we are just the branch or tree— the object on which or from which the fruit will ap-pear.

John 15:7 ***"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you."***

It seems that as we abide in His Word (meditate on it day and night) we suddenly know what and how to ask and then HE DOES IT FOR US. That sounds a lot like Joshua 1:8; As you meditate on the Word day and night you will begin to observe the Word doing in your life the necessary things to make you prosperous and successful.

More proof—Look at Psalm 119:11 ***"Your Word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You, O Lord!"***

As I hide your Word in my heart (meditate day and night) I find that I do not sin against you. I no longer have to TRY to do better or WORK harder to live according to the Word I just do because it is the Word living in me that does the works. John 15:11 teaches us that Jesus wasn't concerned about what fruit He produced because He knew without the Father He could produce nothing; ". . . ***The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own au-thority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.***" It's not by might or by power but by Your Spirit, O Lord. The Holy Spirit can not work without the Word (1 John 5:7).

We can not "DO" the Word we can only "MEDITATE" on it. As we obey and stay focused on the Word, God "DOES" what He promises to do. If we continue to work harder "doing" or "trying to do" what we know is right we miss the life of REST the Lord has called us to (Hebrews 4:1,2). By "DOING" we take ourselves back into the religion Jesus came to save us from. By "DOING" we are no closer to God than any other religions of works (Galatians 3;2,3). By "DOING" we actually fall from Grace and Jesus' work on the cross avails us nothing (Galatians 5:1-4).

How do we look at James 1:22 then? Good question. I'm glad you asked that.

"But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

The word translated "doer" or "doers" comes from the Greek word: "*poietaes*" and is used only 5 times in the entire Bible; James 1:22 23, 25; 4:11 and Romans 2:13 and according to Strong's Exhaustive Concordance it carries the following meaning; "*a creative performer; specifically a "poet"*."

Webster says the word "POET" is from the same Greek word and means; "*a creative artist of great imaginative and expressive gifts and special sensitivity to his medium.*" What does "medium" mean in this context? "*A means of effecting or conveying something—a channel of communication. A go-between, Intermediary . . .*"

Our medium or method to communicate is the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. A poet has special sensitivity to his medium—he becomes a channel of communication. Being a “doer” doesn’t mean we “DO” but we “SPEAK” it because of our special sensitivity, caused by our meditating on it day and night. AS we “SPEAK” it, He “DOES” it. Being a “doer” of the Word means we “speak” it with poetic license and sensitivity in order to communicate to God our need so “He can do” and we get to “rest”.

Quit trying Christian! Start **MEDITATING** on His Word day and night and you will begin to observe your life automatically doing all that is written therein and it will make your way prosperous and successful. Obedience is better than sacrifice. Meditating on His Word day and night is obeying Him. Meditating on His Word day and night brings you into His rest like a mighty tree planted by the waters who’s leaves never wither and who always produces fruit in season without any effort.

To God be all the Glory;

Pastor Larry
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