

# THINK, SPEAK AND DO

## *Joshua 1:8*

***8 This book of the law shall NOT DEPART OUT OF THY MOUTH; but thou shalt MEDITATE THEREIN DAY AND NIGHT, that thou mayest OBSERVE TO DO according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.***

According to this, the key to “good success” is meditating (or *thinking*) on God’s word, speaking God’s word and doing God’s word. We might say that the key to success is to **THINK, SPEAK AND DO!** Today, I want to begin with **THINK**. Failing to properly *think* will keep you from enjoying good success.

## ***Deuteronomy 8:2***

***2 And thou shalt REMEMBER ALL THE WAY WHICH THE LORD THY GOD LED THEE THESE FORTY YEARS in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.***

Moses wanted Israel to recall or think about the ways in which God led them during the past 40 years. There were important lessons God wanted Israel to learn during those years in the wilderness. Similarly, there are important things God wants us to grasp. Therefore, I want to look back on the sermons we have shared with you just this year to see if there’s anything we missed!

Last week we preached a message entitled, “**EXPERIENCE HIS RESURRECTION.**”

## ***Philippians 3:10***

***10 That I may KNOW HIM, and the POWER OF HIS RESURRECTION, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;***

What’s the lesson here? Paul is eager to experience, not the resurrection of his physical body, but the resurrection of his soul (or nature). In other words, he is eager to walk in the “newness of life,” rather than in trespasses and sins! Moreover, he admits that he is “pressing” towards this *experience* (just like we’re told to “seek” after the *kingdom* and its righteousness)!

This brings me to the sermon entitled, “**THY KINGDOM COME?**”

The reason the title appears in the form of a question is because we wanted challenge the notion that the kingdom of God is *imminent* (about to happen).

### **Luke 19:11**

***11 And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God SHOULD IMMEDIATELY APPEAR.***

Jesus put forth this parable to correct those who were anticipating the coming of the Messiah as *king*, when they should have been anticipating the coming of the Messiah as *judge*! Similarly, believers today aren't anticipating Christ coming to *judge* His people.

### **Malachi 3:1–3, 5**

***1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: And the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his TEMPLE, Even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: Behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. 2 But who may abide THE DAY OF HIS COMING? And who shall stand when he appeareth? For he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: 3 And HE SHALL SIT AS A REFINER and purifier of silver: And he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, THAT THEY MAY OFFER UNTO THE LORD AN OFFERING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS. 5 And I will come near to you to JUDGMENT; And I will be a swift witness Against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, And against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, The widow, and the fatherless, And that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, Saith the Lord of hosts.***

If we're truly anticipating the coming judgment of the Lord, we should be "running" or trying to escape the things that are coming upon the world!

### **Luke 21:36**

***36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to ESCAPE all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.***

This word "escape" in this verse means to *flee out of*.

This brings me to the sermon we did entitled, "***RUN, DON'T WALK.***"

In this sermon we talked about the importance of *fleeing* certain things (fornication, covetousness, idolatry), AND about *running towards* other things (the *prize* of the high calling of God)!

### **1 Corinthians 9:24**

***24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the PRIZE? SO RUN, THAT YE MAY OBTAIN.***

Unfortunately, many in the body of Christ are *not* running to obtain the prize. Instead, they're allowing temptations and trials to cause them to quit (fall away).

We even preached a sermon on this entitled, "**MANIFOLD TEMPTATIONS.**"

### **1 Peter 1:6, 9**

***6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through MANIFOLD TEMPTATIONS: 9 Receiving the END of your faith, even the SALVATION OF YOUR SOULS.***

Notice how the salvation of our soul comes at the *END* of our faith (or the trial)!

We also preached a sermon to you entitled, "**GET YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER.**"

Now, most people saw this sermon simply as practical advice for husbands and wives. However, there was also a *spiritual* lesson hidden within this sermon. For example, we said to you in this sermon that "every man should bear rule in his own house." In one sense, this means that the responsibility of any house (or family) lies with the husband, not the wife. But, this same principle can also be applied *spiritually*. Meaning, the responsibility of the salvation of your soul lies with you (the individual), not the Church!

### **Philippians 2:12**

***12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out YOUR OWN SALVATION with fear and trembling.***

Therefore, the Church is supposed to operate in a subordinate role, like a wife, when it comes to the salvation of our soul! Oftentimes, the responsibility for our salvation is given to the Church (minister). As a result, Church has come to be viewed as an AUTO SHOP, rather than an AUTO STORE. (An auto shop is where they fix your car for you. An auto store is where they give you the tools to fix it yourself!)

Lastly, we started the year off with the sermon "**IT'S TIME TO BRING FORTH.**"

This doesn't mean that those looking to get pregnant in 2024 will have a child. (Although, there was one couple in our congregation that I believe received

special grace from God to conceive in 2024. I believe this was a sign of what God's planning to do in the lives of many in our church!)

### **Galatians 4:19**

***19 My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be FORMED IN YOU,***

The word **formed** means *to give outward expression of one's inward nature*. This is what we mean by "bringing forth Christ." We're talking about Christ being manifested in one's life. This is something that is not widely known by many in the Church today!

### **2 Thessalonians 1:10**

***10 When he shall come to be GLORIFIED IN HIS SAINTS, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in THAT day.***

Notice, Christ is coming "in" His saints, and it's going to happen in "that" day. Personally, I believe *that* day is very close! ("That" day also represents the time of the Tribulation. The Tribulation is when Christ will be glorified in the saints.)

### **Revelation 12:5**

***5 And she brought forth a MAN CHILD, who was to RULE ALL NATIONS WITH A ROD OF IRON: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.***

Notice how this "man child" looks eerily similar to Christ. The reason this looks like Christ is because the man child represents a corporate body of overcoming Christians in whom Christ will be glorified (or manifested).

### **Revelation 2:26, 27**

***26 And he that OVERCOMETH, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the NATIONS: 27 And he shall RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.***

Notice, those who "overcome" are described in the *same* way the "man child" was described in **Revelation 12:5**. Therefore, we must conclude that the "man child" of **Revelation 12:5** must be overcoming Christians!