

Stand Still & Go Forward, Pt. 3

Pastor Al Brice | August 23rd, 2020

Exodus 14:13-18 (NKJV)

“And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. 14 The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.” 15 And the Lord said to Moses, “Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward. 16 But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. 17 And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen. 18 Then the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained honor for Myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

I. Four vital ingredients for your success and advancement during difficult times.

A. Rebuke fear!! The devil’s number one weapon.

a. **1 John 4:17-19 (NKJV)** - “Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. 19 We love Him because He first loved us.”

b. How is our love for God perfected (to mature in mental and moral character)?
1 John 2:5-6 (NKJV) - “But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. 6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.”

c. Why is it so important for us to mature in the love that God has given us, has for us, and to mature in the Word of God? **Matthew 24:10-14 (NKJV)** - “And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. 11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

B. Stand Still and See...Stand fixed and firm in faith!! Refocus because we have a tendency to misfocus (to focus improperly).

When you’re experiencing adversity, demonic attacks, bad reports, and tough times, “What is your center of attraction, attention, and concentration during your trial, adversity, and testing?”

The devil’s main thrust against you is to distract you by what you see, hear, and then attack your mind with thoughts from your past, thoughts of past failures, thoughts of past bad behaviors and attitudes, thoughts of despair and defeat concerning your present circumstances, which in turn, presents a picture and image of a very bleak future.

The devil wants to eradicate all of your hope in God and His Promises. Why?

Hebrews 11:1 (NKJV)

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

“If we have no hope, then faith has nothing to give substance to or faith is unemployed without hope.”

Let’s look at someone’s success when, in the natural realm, all hope seemed impossible. Let’s look at Abraham, the father of faith.

Romans 4:17-21 (NKJV)

“(as it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations”) in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; 18 who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, “So shall your descendants be.” 19 And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. 20 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.”

- C. Stand still and SEE. Seeing by the eye of faith, the eye of faith is developed by looking into God’s Word and meditating upon the Word, His Promises.

Your mind may be racing, day to day, with thoughts that are contrary to God’s Promises, sometimes questioning whether or not God is going to do what He promised, and your natural eyes are still not seeing the manifestation of what your believing for in the natural but keep meditating in God’s Word, keep remembering His love and faithfulness, and keep declaring to Him, to your situation, and to yourself His Promises.

Psalms 77:6-15 (NKJV)

“I call to remembrance my song in the night; I meditate within my heart, And my spirit makes diligent search. 7 Will the Lord cast off forever? And will He be favorable no more? 8 Has His mercy ceased forever? Has His promise failed forevermore? 9 Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has He in anger shut up His tender mercies? Selah 10 And I said, “This is my anguish; But I will remember the years of the right hand of the Most High.” 11 I will remember the works of the LORD; Surely I will remember Your wonders of old. 12 I will also meditate on all Your work, And talk (to converse with oneself; to declare truth) of Your deeds. 13 Your way, O God, is in the sanctuary; Who is so great a God as our God? 14 You are the God who does wonders (miracles); You have declared Your strength (power, boldly and loudly) among the peoples. 15 You have with Your arm redeemed Your people...”

- D. See and prophesy to your situation by faith!!

Exodus 14:13 (NKJV)

“And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. “For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.”

- E. Don't let negative thoughts become your speech and conversation, especially if you're in the waiting period, or you will cancel out your intended outcome and victory.

Exodus 14:14 (NKJV)

“The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.”

This generation of Israel never reached the Promise Land because of their flawed identity and mouth, only Caleb and Joshua. They said, “We can't do it and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight”, “We are victims not victors.”

Joshua and the conquest of Jericho: the people were commanded to march around the city walls for seven days and commanded not to say a word until they were told to shout:

Joshua 6:10 (NKJV)

“Now Joshua had commanded the people, saying, “You shall not shout or make any noise with your voice, nor shall a word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I say to you, ‘Shout!’ Then you shall shout.”

Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist was muted, by God, because of his unbelief. If God didn't shut Zacharias' mouth, John the Baptist wouldn't have been born:

Luke 1:19-20 (NKJV)

“And the angel answered and said to him, “I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. 20 But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time.”

Romans 10:10 (NKJV)

“For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”