



Mt. Olive Bible Study

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Week One...

God's Word Has Supreme Authority

God's Word Brings Order To Chaos

God's Word Gives Access To Increase

God's Word Must Be Obeyed To Access Opportunities

God's Word Gives Principles That Lead To Production

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Last Week.....

Principle #1

Trust What God Said vs. Temptation of What I See

Principle #2

Trusting Your Thoughts vs. Taking God At His Word

Principle #3

Repetition Of The Routine vs. Taking God At His Word

Principle #4

Trusting My Skill/Talent vs. Taking God At His Word

Principle #5

Can't Give Up What I Have vs. Taking God At His Word

Principle #6

Relying On The Flesh vs. Taking God At His Word

Principle #7

The Severity of the Situation vs. Taking God At His Word

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

When I Take God At His Word There Are Three Key Factors Outcome ~ Opposition ~ Opportunities

When God Gives His Word
He Speaks With **OUTCOME** In Mind

Genesis 12:2-3 (NKJV)

2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Habakkuk 2:2-3 (NKJV)

*2 Then the Lord answered me and said: "Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. 3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because **IT WILL SURELY COME**, It will not tarry.*

Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

*11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "**PLANS TO PROSPER YOU** and not to harm you, plans to **GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.***

Joshua 1:8 (NIV)

*8 Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will **BE PROSPEROUS AND SUCCESSFUL.***

The Challenge

We Spend Our Energy/Efforts Trying To Figure Out **DETAILS**

TAKE GOD At His Word **FOR THE OUTCOME** ~ **TRUST GOD** When Facing **OPPOSITION**

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When I Take God At His Word
There Are Three Key Factors
Outcome ~ Opposition ~ Opportunities

When God Gives His Word
He Speaks With OUTCOME In Mind

Romans 8:28 (NKJV)

28 And we know that *all things work together for good* to those who love God,
to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Philippians 4:19 (NKJV)

19 And my God shall *supply all your need*
according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Psalms 30:5 (NKJV)

5 For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life;
Weeping may endure for a night, But *joy comes in the morning*.

Malachi 3:10 (NKJV)

10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My
house, And try Me now in this," Says the Lord of hosts, "*If I will not open for
you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing
That there will not be room enough to receive it.*"

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Before God *Requires* You To Take Him At His Word
He Will Always *Teach* You His Word

Mark 4:1-34 (NIV)

1 Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge.

2 He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said:

9 Then Jesus said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

10 When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables.

11 He told them, "The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you.

23 If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear." 24 "Consider carefully what you hear,"

33 With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand.

34 He did not say anything to them without using a parable.

But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

Mark 4:35 (NIV)

*35 That day when evening came, he said to his disciples,
"LET US GO OVER TO THE OTHER SIDE."*

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Biblical Example

After The *Dialogue/Discussion* ~ Then The *Demonstration*

Mark 4:35 (NIV)

35 That day when evening came, he said to his disciples,
"LET US GO OVER TO THE OTHER SIDE."

The Disciples Are Given *A Destination* Without *The Details*

Mark 4:36-41 (ESV)

36 And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, and other boats were with Him. 37 *And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, SO THAT THE BOAT WAS ALREADY FILLING.* 38 But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" 39 And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "PEACE! BE STILL!" And the wind ceased, and *THERE WAS A GREAT CALM.* 40 He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? *HAVE YOU STILL NO FAITH?*" 41 And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

God Does Not *Reveal THE DETAILS*, He Uses Them *FOR DEVELOPMENT*

If You Trust Him For The Destination

Trust Him For The Development

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Take God At His Word

Mark 4:36-41 (ESV)

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Key Principles

“*The Storms Arose*” ~ They Were Arranged... They Were Allowed {WHY}

Jonah vs. Disciples {Obedience vs. Disobedience}

Storm Is Part of the Development Curriculum

“*The Boat Was Filling*” ~ The Challenge Between What Was Said vs. What I See

God’s Word Was Given In Calmness ~ Silent In The Storm

“*He Was In The Stern, Asleep*”... ~ When You Know The Outcome ~ Rest In Opposition

Example: Peter In Prison ~ Acts 12

Psalms 4:8 (NKJV)

8 I will both lie down in peace, and sleep;
For You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

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Take God At His Word

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Key Principles

“*Still Have No Faith*” ~

Faith Is Demonstrated

When You Learn To Take God At His Word

On The Land... They Are Taught The Word

In The Storm.... They Are Expected To Take God At His Word

This Builds Faith!!!!

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Biblical Example

Acts 27:16-26 (NIV)

16 As we passed to the lee of a small island called Cauda, we were hardly able to make the lifeboat secure. 17 When the men had hoisted it aboard, they passed ropes under the ship itself to hold it together. Fearing that they would run aground on the sandbars of Syrtis, they lowered the sea anchor and let the ship be driven along.

18 We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. 19 On the third day, they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. 20 When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved. 21 After the men had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: "Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss.

*22 But now I urge you to **KEEP UP YOUR COURAGE**, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. 23 Last night an angel of the God whose I am and whom I serve stood beside me 24 **AND SAID**, 'Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.'*

*25 So keep up your courage, men,
FOR I HAVE FAITH IN GOD THAT IT WILL HAPPEN JUST AS HE TOLD ME.*

Key Principle

*Courage and Confidence in your Conclusion
Come With... Taking God At His Word*

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Comparative Analysis

Details Differ... Because of The Development Needed

Mark 4:37-39 (NKJV)

37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. 38 But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" 39 Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!"
And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.

Acts 27:19-20 (NKJV)

19 On *the third day* we threw the ship's tackle overboard with our own hands.
20 Now when neither sun nor stars appeared *for many days*, and no small tempest beat on us, all hope that we would be saved was finally given up.

Acts 27:27, 38 (NKJV)

27 Now *when the fourteenth night had come*, as we were driven up and down in the Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors sensed that they were drawing near land...
38 So when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship and *threw out the wheat into the sea*.

Acts 27:43-44 (NKJV)

43 But the centurion, wanting to save Paul, kept them from their purpose, and commanded that *those who could swim should jump overboard first and get to land*,
44 and the rest, some on boards and some on parts of the ship.
AND SO IT WAS THAT THEY ALL ESCAPED SAFELY TO LAND.

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Conclusion

God's Word Reveals The Outcome

Keep The Outcome In Mind... We Facing Opposition

*Don't Allow The Opposition To Make You Miss
Your Opportunity To Grow*

*God Does Not Reveal All The Details Toward The Destination
He Uses The Details For Your Development*

*Although We Reach The Same Destination
Our Development Is Not The Same*

*God Will Not Require You To Take Him At His Word
Until You Have Been Placed In Position To Hear His Word*

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Final Example

1 Samuel 30:1-10 (NKJV)

1 Now it happened, when David and his men came to Ziklag, on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the South and Ziklag, attacked Ziklag and burned it with fire, 2 and had taken captive the women and those who were there, from small to great; they did not kill anyone, but carried them away and went their way.

3 So David and his men came to the city, and there it was, burned with fire; and their wives, their sons, and their daughters had been taken captive.

4 Then David and the people who were with him lifted up their voices and wept, until they had no more power to weep.

*6 Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters.
But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.*

*8 So David inquired of the Lord, saying, "**Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?**"
And He answered him,*

"Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all."

[OUTCOME]

9 So David went, he and the six hundred men who were with him, and came to the Brook Besor, where those stayed who were left behind.

*10 **BUT DAVID PURSUED**, he and four hundred men; for two hundred stayed behind, who were so weary that they could not cross the Brook Besor.*

[KEPT PUSHING BECAUSE HE KNEW THE OUTCOME]

1 Samuel 30:18 ~ 18 So David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away....