



Mt. Olive Bible Study

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Taking God At His Word

*In Matthew 8, The Roman Centurion
Understood The Impact of the Word...*

Matthew 8:8-9 (NIV)

8 The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof.

*But just **SAY THE WORD, AND MY SERVANT WILL BE HEALED.***

9 For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me.

I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes.

I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

*He Understood **The Power of the Word***

*He Understood **The Authority of the Word***

He Understood This Principle In The Natural Order Of Things

*"I have People Under Me....When I **SAY SOMETHING**.... Results Happen*

Isaiah 55:11 (NIV)

11 so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty,

but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Taking God At His Word

Under His Authority

1 Corinthians 15:27-28 (NLT)

27 For the Scriptures say, “*God has put all things under his authority.*”
28 Then, when all things are *under his authority*, *the Son will put himself under God’s authority*, so that God, who gave his Son authority over all things, will **BE UTTERLY SUPREME OVER EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE.**

Matthew 28:18 (NLT)

18 Jesus came and told his disciples,
“I have been given **ALL AUTHORITY** in heaven and on earth.

Ephesians 1:22 (NLT)

22 God has put **ALL THINGS UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CHRIST** and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church.

Hebrews 2:8 (NIV)

8 and put *everything under his feet.*” In putting everything under him, *God left nothing that is not subject to him.* Yet at present *we do not see everything subject to him.*

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

The Origin Of God's Word

In Genesis 1, We See This Principle Established

Genesis 1:1-3 (NIV)

- 1 In the beginning *God created the heavens and the earth.*
- 2 Now the earth was *formless and empty*, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.
- 3 *AND GOD SAID*, "*Let there be light*," and there was light.

*Earth was Formless, Empty, and Dark
How Did Transformation Occur?*

THE WORD OF GOD...

Vs. 6 ~ God Said... Results

Vs. 11 ~ God Said... Results

Vs. 20 ~ God Said... Results

Vs. 9 ~ God Said... Results

Vs. 14 ~ God Said... Results

Vs. 24 ~ God Said... Results

God's Word Is Used To Bring Things Into Order {Remove Chaos}

1 Corinthians 14:33 ~ For God is not the author of confusion but of peace....

1 Corinthians 14:40 ~ Let all things be done decently and in order.

Principle Is Established

*Once Chaos and Confusion is Removed.... **Order Is Restored**.... Then Increase Can Begin*

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

The Origin Of God's Word

*Once Order Is Established
Then God Begins The Increase*

Genesis 1:28-29 (NIV)

28 *God blessed them* and said to them, "*Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. RULE OVER* the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

29 Then God said, "*I GIVE YOU EVERY SEED-BEARING PLANT* on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has *FRUIT WITH SEED IN IT.*

They will be yours for food.

KEY OBSERVATIONS

They Did Not Receive The SEED UNTIL THERE WAS ORDER!!!

God BLESSED THEM By Giving Them AUTHORITY Over What He Created

He Did Not Give Them MORE ~ HE GAVE THEM POWER/ABILITY/SEED

Deuteronomy 8:18 (NIV)

18 But remember the Lord your God, for it is he *who gives you the ability/power to produce wealth*, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers,

**TAKING
GOD
AT HIS
WORD**

The Principle Seen In New Testament

***Once Order Is Established
Then Results Will Be Seen***

Mark 5:35-42 (NIV)

35 While *Jesus was still speaking*, some men came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. "Your daughter is dead," **THEY SAID**. "Why bother the teacher anymore?"

36 *Ignoring what they said*, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, "Don't be afraid; **JUST BELIEVE**."

37 He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. 38 When they came to the home of the synagogue ruler, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. 39 He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? **THE CHILD IS NOT DEAD BUT ASLEEP**."

40 *But they laughed at him*. After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was.

41 He took her by the hand and **SAID TO HER**, "Talitha koum!" (which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"). 42 Immediately the girl stood up and walked around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished.

**NOTICE THE IMPACT OF HAVING PEOPLE AROUND YOU
THAT DO NOT TAKE GOD AT HIS WORD!!!!**

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

The Principle Seen In New Testament

*Once Order Is Established
Then Results Will Be Seen*

Luke 9:12-17 (NIV)

12 Late in the afternoon the Twelve came to him and said, "Send the crowd away so they can go to the surrounding villages and countryside and find food and lodging, because we are in a remote place here."

13 He replied, "You give them something to eat." They answered, "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish--unless we go and buy food for all this crowd."

*14 (About five thousand men were there.) But he said to his disciples,
"HAVE THEM SIT DOWN IN GROUPS OF ABOUT FIFTY EACH."*

15 THE DISCIPLES DID SO, and EVERYBODY SAT DOWN.

16 Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to set before the people.

17 They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

*THEY WERE NOT GIVEN INCREASE/ABUNDANCE
UNTIL ORDER WAS ESTABLISHED!!!*

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

After Order.... Comes Obedience

*The Greatest Enemy Of Dominion and Power
Is Disobedience To The Word*

Genesis 2:8-9, 15-18 (NIV)

8 Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. 9 And the Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground--trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. 16 AND THE LORD GOD COMMANDED THE MAN, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die." 18 The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

Man Has Authority, Access, Assistance, and Abundance

The Only Battle Is Disobedience To The Word

Rebellion Against The Rules Will Impact Your Results

Only ONE RULE ~ Take God At His Word

TAKING
GOD
AT HIS
WORD

Rebellion Against The Rules Will Impact The Results

Something To Consider

The Sun, Sky, Stars, Birds, Fish, Trees, etc.....

Are Still Functioning As Designed....

Still Operating and Functioning As Intended....

No Chaos, Conflict....

Man Is A Living Soul.....

Has Intellect, Will, Conscience, Mind, and Emotions

When Attempting To Take God At His Word

Be Mindful of.....

What You Know ~ What You Think ~ How You Feel

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Rebellion Over The Rules Will Impact The Results

The Greatest Enemy Of Dominion and Power Is Disobedience To The Word

Genesis 3:1-6 (NIV)

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "DID GOD REALLY SAY, 'YOU MUST NOT EAT FROM ANY TREE IN THE GARDEN'?" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

4 "YOU WILL NOT SURELY DIE," THE SERPENT SAID TO THE WOMAN.

5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

They Did Not Take God At His Word

Disobedience Caused Them To Forfeit Their Dominion

Refusing To Practice The Principle Caused Them To Lose Their Power

The Consequences ~ You Will Struggle

Increase The Pain To Produce, Toil To Eat, Struggle To Get Increase

**TAKING
GOD
AT HIS
WORD**

Introduction Of Another Principle

Faithfulness Of The First Brings Favor

Genesis 4:2-7 (NIV)

2 Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil.

3 In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord. 4 But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock.

THE LORD LOOKED WITH FAVOR ON ABEL AND HIS OFFERING,

5 but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast. 6 Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? 7 IF YOU DO WHAT IS RIGHT, WILL YOU NOT BE ACCEPTED? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it."

Faithfulness To Your First Fruit Will Bring Favor and Results

CAIN MADE A DECISION NOT TO TAKE GOD AT HIS WORD

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Continuous Command Throughout Scripture

Faithfulness Of The First Brings Favor

Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV)

9 Honor the Lord with your wealth, *with the firstfruits of all your crops*;
10 *THEN* your barns will be filled to overflowing,
and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Ezekiel 44:30 (NIV)

30 The *best of all the firstfruits* and of all your special gifts will belong to the
priests. You are to give them *the first portion of your ground meal*
SO THAT A BLESSING MAY REST ON YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

Romans 11:16 (NIV)

16 *IF* the part of the dough offered as firstfruits is holy,
THEN the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches.

1 Corinthians 16:2 (NIV)

2 On the *first day of every week*, each one of you should *set aside a sum of
money in keeping with his income*, saving it up...

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Practice The Principle To Receive The Promise

Faithfulness Of The First Brings Favor

1 Kings 17:10-16 (NLT)

10 So he went to Zarephath. As he arrived at the gates of the village, he saw a widow gathering sticks, and he asked her, “*Would you please bring me a little water in a cup?*”

11 As she was going to get it, he called to her, “*Bring me a bite of bread, too.*”

12 But **SHE SAID**, “I swear by the Lord your God that *I don’t have a single piece of bread in the house. And I have only a handful of flour left in the jar and a little cooking oil in the bottom of the jug. I was just gathering a few sticks to cook this last meal, and THEN MY SON AND I WILL DIE.*”

13 But Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid! Go ahead and do just what you’ve said, but **MAKE A LITTLE BREAD FOR ME FIRST**. Then use what’s left to prepare a meal for yourself and your son.

14 For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: *There will always be flour and olive oil left in your containers until the time when the Lord sends rain and the crops grow again!* 15 **SO SHE DID AS ELIJAH SAID**, and she and Elijah and her son *continued to eat for many days.* 16 There was *always enough flour and olive oil left in the containers, JUST AS THE LORD HAD PROMISED* through Elijah.

**TAKING
GOD
AT HIS
WORD**

*Regardless Of The Culture...
The Principle Does Not Change*

Faithfulness To God's Word Brings Favor and Results

Genesis 6:5-8

*5 The Lord observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything **they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil.***

6 So the Lord was sorry he had ever made them and put them on the earth. It broke his heart. 7 And the Lord said, "I will wipe this human race I have created from the face of the earth. Yes, and I will destroy every living thing—all the people, the large animals, the small animals that scurry along the ground, and even the birds of the sky. I am sorry I ever made them."

*8 **BUT NOAH FOUND FAVOR WITH THE LORD.***

Genesis 6:9

*9 This is the account of Noah and his family. **NOAH WAS A RIGHTEOUS MAN, THE ONLY BLAMELESS PERSON LIVING ON EARTH AT THE TIME, and HE WALKED IN CLOSE FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD.***

Although The Culture Walked Away From God...

There Was Still An Opportunity Connected To His Obedience

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Regardless Of The Culture... The Principle Does Not Change

Faithfulness To God's Word Brings Favor and Results

Genesis 6:13-22 (NIV)

13 So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth.

*14 So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. 15 This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. 16 Make a roof for it and finish the ark to within 18 inches of the top. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks. 17 I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. 18 ***But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark--you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you.*** 19 You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. 20 Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. 21 You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them."*

22 NOAH DID EVERYTHING JUST AS GOD COMMANDED HIM.

Genesis 7:5 (NIV)

5 AND NOAH DID ALL THAT THE LORD COMMANDED HIM.

**TAKING
GOD
AT HIS
WORD**

*Regardless Of The Culture...
The Principle Does Not Change*

This Principle Presented In The New Testament

Matthew 7:24-29 (NIV)

24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.

27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

28 When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, 29 because he taught as one who had authority

TO OVERCOME THE STORMS ~ TAKE GOD AT HIS WORD

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Seed-Time and Harvest

Introduction Of Another Principle

Genesis 8:14-22 (NIV)

- 14 By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry.*
- 15 Then God said to Noah, 16 "Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. 17 Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you--the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground--so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number upon it."*
- 18 So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives.*
- 19 All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds--everything that moves on the earth--came out of the ark, one kind after another.*
- 20 Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it.*
- 21 The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.*
- 22 "As long as the earth endures, SEEDTIME AND HARVEST, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."*

TAKING
GOD
AT HIS
WORD

The Results Are Always Connected To Your Response

*Regardless of People, Problems, and Places
The Principle Still Works*

Genesis 9:1-3 (NIV)

- 1 Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them,
"BE FRUITFUL AND INCREASE IN NUMBER AND FILL THE EARTH.*
- 2 The fear and dread of you will fall upon all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon every creature that moves along the ground, and upon all the fish of the sea; they are given into your hands.*
- 3 Everything that lives and moves will be food for you.
Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.*

The Principles That God Established Are Repeated!!!

Restore Order With My Word

Re-establish Dominion

Command To Increase

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Conclusion

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