



Mt. Olive Bible Study

Wednesday, November 29, 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***

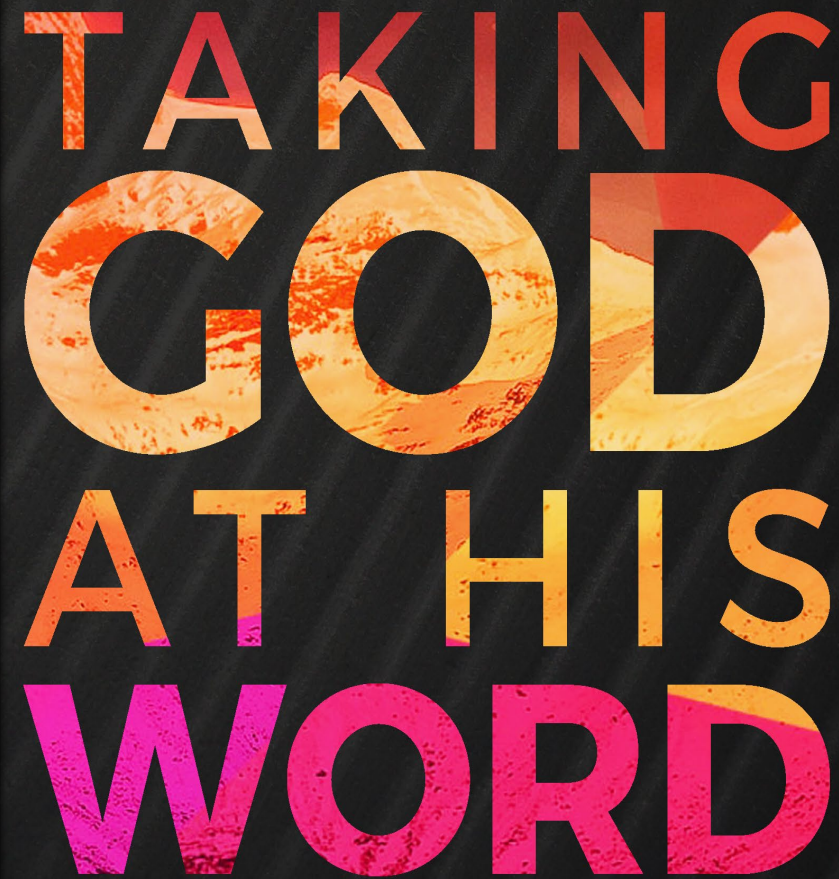
He Understood This Principle In The Natural Order Of Things

*"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

Last Study...

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

Principle #1 Trust What God Said vs. Temptation of What I See

The Lure of Sight vs. Living by what God Said

Genesis 3:1-6 (NKJV)

1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "**HAS GOD INDEED SAID, 'YOU SHALL NOT EAT OF EVERY TREE OF THE GARDEN'?**" 2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; 3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' " 4 Then the serpent said to the woman, "**YOU WILL NOT SURELY DIE.**" 5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 So when **THE WOMAN SAW** that the tree was good for food, that **IT WAS PLEASANT TO THE EYES**, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her...

The Battle For The Believer

What I See vs. What God Said ~ Attractive vs Authority

1 John 2:15-17 (NKJV)

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is **in the world--the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life--**is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 **And the world is passing away, and the lust of it;** but he who does the will of God abides forever.

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #1 Trust What God Said vs. Temptation of What I See

Eyes vs. Ears

Romans 10:17~ Faith Comes By Hearing and Hearing By Word of God

2 Corinthians 5:7 ~ For We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight

Hebrews 11:1 (NLT)

1 Faith is **THE CONFIDENCE** that what we hope for **will actually happen**;
it gives us **ASSURANCE** about things **WE CANNOT SEE**.

The **LUST OF THE EYES** is the **SINFUL DESIRE** to possess what **WE SEE**
or to have those things which have **VISUAL APPEAL**.

Satan uses the lust of the eyes as one avenue of temptation...

To Take God At His Word

1. Conviction
2. Contentment

TAKING
GOD
AT HIS
WORD

Principle #1
Trust What God Said vs. Temptation of What I See

CONVICTION

Matthew 4:8-10 (NLT)

8 Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him the kingdoms of the world and all their glory.

9 “I will give it all to you,” he said, “if you will kneel down and worship me.”

10 “Get out of here, Satan,” Jesus told him. “For the Scriptures say, ‘You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.’”

CONTENTMENT

1 Timothy 6:6-8 (NLT)

6 Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth.

7 After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can’t take anything with us when we leave it.

8 So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content.

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #1 Trust What God Said vs. Temptation of What I See

Trust vs. Temptation

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NLT)

*13 The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. **AND GOD IS FAITHFUL.** He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will **SHOW YOU** a way out so that you can endure.*

Matthew 6:19-22 (NLT)

19 “Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal.

20 Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal.

*21 **Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.***

*22 “**YOUR EYE is a lamp that provides LIGHT FOR YOUR BODY.** When your eye is good, your whole body is filled with light.*

2 Corinthians 11:14 (ESV)

*14 And no wonder, for even **Satan disguises himself** as an angel of **LIGHT.***

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #2 Trusting Your Thoughts vs. Taking God At His Word

“I Was Thinking It Should Be Like This....”

2 Kings 5:1-3; 9-12 (ESV)

*1 Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the Lord had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. 2 Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman’s wife. 3 She said to her mistress, “Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.” 9 So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha’s house. 10 **And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, “Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean.”***

*11 But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, “Behold, **I THOUGHT THAT HE WOULD** surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper. 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?”*

So he turned and went away in a rage.

The Battle For The Believer

The Expectation of “HOW”

Don’t Get Consumed With How God Will Deliver... Just Know That He Will!!!

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #2 Trusting Your Thoughts vs. Taking God At His Word

“I Was Thinking It Should Be Like This....”

Isaiah 55:8-11 (ESV)

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

10 “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the Sower and bread to the eater,

11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Don't Overthink The Solution... Trust The Savior

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #3 Repetition Of The Routine vs. Taking God At His Word

“It Worked Before Mentality”

Exodus 17:2-6

2 Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?”

3 But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” 4 So Moses cried to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” 6 Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and **YOU SHALL STRIKE THE ROCK**, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.

Numbers 20:7-12

7 The Lord said to Moses, 8 “Take the staff, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. **SPEAK TO THAT ROCK BEFORE THEIR EYES** and it will pour out its water. You will bring water out of the rock for the community so they and their livestock can drink.” 9 **So Moses took the staff from the Lord's presence, just as he commanded him.** 10 He and Aaron gathered the assembly together in front of the rock and Moses said to them, “Listen, you rebels, must we bring you water out of this rock?” 11 **THEN MOSES RAISED HIS ARM AND STRUCK THE ROCK TWICE WITH HIS STAFF.** **Water gushed out,** and the community and their livestock drank. 12 But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, **“BECAUSE YOU DID NOT TRUST IN ME ENOUGH TO HONOR ME** as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them.”

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #3 Repetition Of The Routine vs. Taking God At His Word

*If We Are Not Careful... Our Past Success
Will Cause Us To **TRUST OUR PROCESS** Rather Than God's Word*

Although God Does Not Change... His Instructions Change!!!

We Are Driven By Results... God Is Moved By Obedience

Note: Water Came Out Despite His Disobedience

Deuteronomy 32:48-52 (NLT)

48 That same day the Lord said to Moses,

49 "Go to Moab, to the mountains east of the river, and climb Mount Nebo, which is across from Jericho. Look out across the land of Canaan, the land I am giving to the people of Israel as their own special possession. 50 Then you will die there on the mountain. You will join your ancestors, just as Aaron, your brother, died on Mount Hor and joined his ancestors.

*51 For both of you betrayed me with the Israelites at the waters in the wilderness of Zin. **YOU FAILED TO DEMONSTRATE MY HOLINESS** to the people of Israel there.*

52 So you will see the land from a distance, but you may not enter the land I am giving to the people of Israel."

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #4 Trusting My Skill/Talent vs. Taking God At His Word

“This Is What I Do Mentality”

Luke 5:1-6 (NIV)

1 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the people crowding around him and listening to the word of God,

2 he saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. 3 He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "PUT OUT INTO DEEP WATER, AND LET DOWN THE NETS FOR A CATCH."

5 Simon answered, "MASTER, WE'VE WORKED HARD ALL NIGHT AND HAVEN'T CAUGHT ANYTHING. BUT BECAUSE YOU SAY SO, I WILL LET DOWN THE NETS." 6 When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.

The Battle For The Believer

*“The Word Works At Work” ~ Tested In The Place Of Talent/Skill/Trade
How Obedient Are We At Our Occupation*

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #5 Can't Give Up What I Have vs. Taking God At His Word

“I Can't Give Up This...For That Mentality”

Mark 10:17-22 (NIV)

17 As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

18 "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good--except God alone. 19 You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.'" 20 "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy." 21 Jesus looked at him and loved him. “

One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

22 At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

The Battle of the Believer

The Abundance Of What I Have Is Too Much To Lose

Luke 12:15 (ESV)

*15 And Jesus said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, **FOR ONE’S LIFE DOES NOT CONSIST IN THE ABUNDANCE OF HIS POSSESSIONS.**”*

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #5 Can't Give Up What I Have vs. Taking God At His Word

“I Can't Give Up This...For That Mentality”

2 Chronicles 25:5-9 (NLT)

5 Then Amaziah organized the army, assigning generals and captains for all Judah and Benjamin. He took a census and found that he had an army of 300,000 select troops, twenty years old and older, all trained in the use of spear and shield.

6 He also paid about 7,500 pounds of silver to hire 100,000 experienced fighting men from Israel. 7 But a man of God came to him and said, “Your Majesty, do not hire troops from Israel, for the Lord is not with Israel. He will not help those people of Ephraim! 8 If you let them go with your troops into battle, you will be defeated by the enemy no matter how well you fight. God will overthrow you, for he has the power to help you or to trip you up.” 9 Amaziah asked the man of God, “But what about all that silver I paid to hire the army of Israel?” The man of God replied,

“THE LORD IS ABLE TO GIVE YOU MUCH MORE THAN THIS!”

Whatever You Are Afraid To Lose.... Remember This Verse!!!!

*Quote: **GOD'S ABLENESS** Is Greater Than **ANY ABSENCE!!!!***

Ephesians 3:20 (NKJV)

*20 Now to Him **WHO IS ABLE** to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us...*

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #6 Relying On The Flesh vs. Taking God At His Word

“By My Power....”

Matthew 26:36-41 (NLT)

36 Then Jesus went with them to the olive grove called Gethsemane, and he said, “Sit here while I go over there to pray.” 37 He took Peter and Zebedee’s two sons, James and John, and he became anguished and distressed. 38 He told them, “My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.”

39 He went on a little farther and bowed with his face to the ground, praying, “My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.” 40 Then he returned to the disciples and found them asleep. He said to Peter, “Couldn’t you watch with me even one hour?

*41 Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation.
For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak!”*

Matthew 26:49-51 (NLT)

49 So Judas came straight to Jesus. “Greetings, Rabbi!” he exclaimed and gave him the kiss. 50 Jesus said, “My friend, go ahead and do what you have come for.” Then the others grabbed Jesus and arrested him.

51 But one of the men with Jesus pulled out his sword and struck the high priest’s slave, slashing off his ear.

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #6 Relying On The Flesh vs. Taking God At His Word

When It Comes To Prayer, We Do Not Take God At His Word

Philippians 4:6-7 (ESV)

6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything *by prayer and supplication* with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

17 *pray without ceasing...*

Colossians 4:2

2 *Continue steadfastly in prayer*, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

Jeremiah 33:3

3 *'Call to Me*, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

1 John 5:14 (NKJV)

14 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if *we ask anything* according to His will, He hears us.

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #7 The Severity of the Situation vs. Taking God At His Word

“You Just Don’t Know How Bad It Is....”

Genesis 16:7-11 (NLT)

7 The angel of the Lord found Hagar beside a spring of water in the wilderness, along the road to Shur. 8 The angel said to her, “Hagar, Sarai’s servant, where have you come from, and where are you going?” “I’m running away from my mistress, Sarai,” she replied. 9 The angel of the Lord said to her, “Return to your mistress, and submit to her authority.” 10 Then he added, “I WILL GIVE YOU MORE DESCENDANTS THAN YOU CAN COUNT.” 11 And the angel also said, “You are now pregnant and will give birth to a son. You are to name him Ishmael (which means ‘God hears’), for the Lord has heard your cry of distress.

Genesis 21:14-19 (NLT)

14 So Abraham got up early the next morning, prepared food and a container of water, and strapped them on Hagar’s shoulders. Then he sent her away with their son, and she wandered aimlessly in the wilderness of Beersheba. 15 When the water was gone, she put the boy in the shade of a bush. 16 Then she went and sat down by herself about a hundred yards away. “I DON’T WANT TO WATCH THE BOY DIE,” SHE SAID, AS SHE BURST INTO TEARS. 17 But God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, “Hagar, what’s wrong? Do not be afraid! God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. 18 Go to him and comfort him, FOR I WILL MAKE A GREAT NATION FROM HIS DESCENDANTS.”

19 Then God opened Hagar’s eyes, and she saw a well full of water. She quickly filled her water container and gave the boy a drink.

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Principle #7 The Severity of the Situation vs. Taking God At His Word

*“Regardless of How Bad It Is....”
GOD WILL ALWAYS HONOR HIS WORD!!!!*

Jeremiah 32:27 (ESV)

27 “Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is anything too hard for me?”

Genesis 18:14 (ESV)

14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son.”

Luke 1:37 (ESV)

37 For nothing will be impossible with God.”

Matthew 19:26 (ESV)

26 But Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

THERE IS NOTHING TOO HARD FOR GOD

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD

Conclusion

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