

From Impossible to Possible Part-6

We're continuing tonight with **Part 6** of "**From Impossible to Possible.**" A year ago this month the Lord said to my heart, *"I'm sending a flood of My Spirit."* When I asked Him what we should do, He simply replied, *"Prepare."* This series is part of the preparation.

The past two weeks we've focused on **Heb. 12:18-22** in order to understand **present realities** in the heavenly realm & God's Kingdom. We've also contrasted N.T. Christianity with O.T. Judaism - overwhelming blessing of grace vs. the Law that brought fear & separation.

A Look at More Present Realities

Heb. 12:23 TPT *"And as members of the church* of the Firstborn** all our names have been legally registered as citizens of heaven! And we have come before God who judges all, and who lives among the spirits of the righteousness who have been made perfect in His eyes (Aramaic can be translated: "and to the Spirit who has perfected the righteous ones.")!"*

***TPT notes:** "This is the Greek word *ekklesia*, which is commonly used for church. However, *ekklesia* means more than a church meeting, for it signified in Greek culture the governing assembly which had the authority to make decisions for the entire city. **Matt. 16:18 TPT:** *"I give you the name Peter, a stone. And this rock [of revelation Peter spoke] will be the bedrock foundation on which I will build **My church – my legislative assembly**, and the power of death will not be able to overpower it!"*"

****** "This is Jesus who is God's uniquely **Firstborn** (**Heb. 1:6 NKJV**) *"But when He again brings the **firstborn** into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him.").* **In Christ** we are all the firstborn & have all the rights & blessings that Jesus has."

Heb. 12:24 TPT *“And we **have come** to Jesus who established a new covenant with His blood sprinkled upon the mercy seat; blood that continues to speak from heaven, “forgiveness,” a better message than Abel’s blood that cries from the earth, “justice.” (Gen. 4:10 TPT “Yahweh said, “Listen – the voice of your brother’s blood is crying out to Me from the ground! **What have you done?**”).”* **SFLB note** on 4:10, “As in the previous chapter, God knew, yet He asked a demanding question. “*The life...is in the blood*” **Lev. 17:11**); the One who gives that life can hear its cry. See Isa. 26:21; Ezek. 24:7-8; Matt. 23:35; Rev. 6:10.”

So Hear the Heavenly Voice

SFLB note on **Heb. 12:25-29**: “The author issues a final warning to those who contemplate turning away from Christ. If severe punishment fell upon those who rejected the revelation of Sinai, **much more** severe will be the penalty upon those who disregard the fuller revelation they have in Christ. The return of the Lord will signal the removal of all that is earthly and temporal, in order that only heavenly and spiritual realities **may remain** (v. 27). **Therefore...let us have grace to serve God acceptably.**”

V. 25 TPT *“Make very sure that you never refuse to listen to God when He speaks! (TPT: Or ‘don’t turn your back on the speaker.’) For the **God who spoke on earth from Sinai is the same God who now speaks from heaven**. Those who heard Him speak His living Word on earth found nowhere else to hide, so what chance is there for us to escape if we turn our backs on God and refuse to hear His warnings as He speaks from heaven?”*

It is **impossible** for people to escape judgment if they refuse to listen to what God has to say from Heaven now. But Jesus Christ makes it **possible** for all men to escape through His shed blood!

V. 26 TPT At Sinai, “*The earth was rocked at the sound of His voice from the mountain, but now He has promised,*

“Once and for all I will not only shake the systems of the world, but also the unseen powers** in the heavenly realm!”*

***TPT note:** “Although earthquakes are prophesied to come, the prophet is most likely using a metaphoric term for the worlds’ systems (finance, military, governments, religious, etc.). The message of the gospel has shaken the world’s foundations as it includes an unshakeable kingdom rising on the earth. Kings of the earth have placed their crowns down before the cross of a Man who was crucified as a common criminal. The power of the gospel is still shaking the world.”

****TPT note:** “It is not God’s power or throne being shaken, but invisible forces of darkness in the heavenly realm. See **Hag.**

2:6 TPT: *“For I declare to you: Very soon, I, YAHWEH, Commander of Angel Armies, will once again shake the heavens and earth, the land and sea.”*; **Eph. 6:12 TPT** *“Your hand-to-hand combat is not with human beings, but with the highest principalities and authorities operating in rebellion under the heavenly realms. For they are a powerful class of **demon-gods*** and evil spirits that hold this dark world in bondage.”*

***TPT note:** “The classical Gk. word used here is often used to refer to conjuring up pagan deities – supreme powers of darkness mentioned in occult rituals.” We're talking about witchcraft here.

V. 27 TPT *“Now this phrase “once and for all” clearly indicates the final removal of things that are shaking, that is, the old order (or “things that have been made”), so only what is unshakable will remain.”* **28.** *Since we are receiving our rights* to an unshakable kingdom [Dan. 7:18] we should be extremely thankful and offer God the purest worship that delights His heart as we lay down our lives in absolute surrender, filled with awe (The Aramaic can be translated “We have received grace to serve and we please God in awe and tender devotion” [submission].).”*

***TPT note:** “The Gk. word *paralambo* is often used in classical Greek literature for heirs who have the “rights of succession” (to a throne).”

29 TPT “*For our God is a holy, devouring fire!*” “The Aramaic can be translated “*consuming light*.” See also Deut. 4:24; 9:3.”

From Impossible Impurity to Possible Perfection

Selwyn Hughes “**The Consuming Fire**” “*Our God is a consuming fire.*” Heb. 12:29 HCSB

“**George MacDonald** writes: “Nothing is inexorable (relentless) but love, for love loves unto purity. Love has ever in view the absolute loveliness of that which it beholds. Where loveliness is incomplete, and love cannot love its fill of loving, it spends itself to make more lovely, that it may love more; it strives for perfection even that itself may be perfected – not in itself, but in the object. Therefore, all that is not beautiful in the beloved, all that comes between and is not of love’s kind, must be destroyed. Our God is a consuming fire.”

“Powerful words.

“The nature of God is so terribly pure that it destroys everything that is not as pure as fire. God desires us to worship Him in “*the splendor of His holiness*” (Ps. 29:2). This means that He wants the purity in us to match the purity in Him. We cannot arrive at this purity by self-effort, of course, but the more we draw nigh to Him, the more the fire of His purity will burn out the dross within us.

“It is not the fire that will burn us up if we do not worship,” said George MacDonald, “but the fire will burn us up until we worship.” And the fire will go on burning within us after every-thing that is foreign to it has been consumed, no longer with pain and a sense of something unwanted being consumed, but as the highest consciousness of life.

“God is a consuming fire. He always was, and always will be – world without end.”

Years ago while in Canada pastoring, my wife and I went to an annual conference where Bobby Connor was speaking. He spoke of having a vision of being in Heaven, and standing before a huge open door. Fire was all around. The door was pulled open and he walked in the steps of another – the footsteps of Jesus. The footprints were on fire & that cleansing fire transferred into Bobby.