

Regeneration Series Session 4 – Receiving a “Rhema” Word

I. Review

A. Regeneration Defined

1. Restore – Revive – Rebuild
2. To bring forth again

B. God delights in regeneration

C. Our cooperation is required

D. Believe for Resurrection Power

1. Revive – to restore to life – to give new strength and energy.
2. You must believe for it.
3. You must set yourself in agreement for it.
4. Call the dead areas back to life.

II. Life in the Word

A. **John 6:63 (NKJV)** – *It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life*

John 6:63 (GNT) – *What gives life is God's Spirit; human power is of no use at all. The words I have spoken to you bring God's life-giving Spirit*

B. **Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV)** – *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart*

Hebrews 4:12 (AMP) – *For the word of God is living and active and full of power [making it operative, energizing, and effective]*

C. There is Life in the Word – The Word of God is Life

1. **One Word from God can change your life.**
2. **A Word from the Lord can give you:**
 - a. Strength
 - b. Peace
 - c. Direction
 - d. LIFE
3. **A Word from God will SUSTAIN you.**
 - a. Give you support to carry on.
 - b. Strengthen you to make it through.
 - c. Enable you to bear up under the pressure.
 - d. Fortify and Replenish.

III. Examples of Living by the Word

A. Caleb

1. **Summarize the Story of Caleb and Joshua?**
 - a. **Numbers 13:30-31 (NKJV)** – *³⁰Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, “Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.” ³¹But the men who had gone up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we.”*

NOTE: Caleb says, we can when others said we can't.

- b. **Why would Caleb say something so different than the vast majority? He had a word!**

(God’s Promise)

Numbers 13:2 (NKJV) – *Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the children of Israel; from each tribe of their fathers, you shall send a man, everyone a leader among them.*

Numbers 13:2 (NASB) – *Spy out the land which I am going to give*

Numbers 13:2 (CEV) – *Explore the land I am giving you*

Caleb took God at His Word! Caleb received faith/strength/from the Word that God had spoken to give him the courage to believe that He could have whatever God said.

- c. **Numbers 14:24 (NKJV)** – *But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it.*

**What made a difference in Caleb’s spirit and the spirit of others?
Caleb’s spirit was charged with LIFE – from the Word of God.**

*He completely received the Word – what God promised.
He totally believed the Word – what God said, he would do.
He fully obeyed- followed the Word – Obedience*

- d. **Caleb was so alive with the Word of God – that He would do whatever necessary to receive it.**
- e. **Although the fear and doubt of others delayed the possession of the Promised Land. Caleb would be kept alive – (sustained) to receive the Promised Land 40 years later.**

NOTE: *There are some things that were designed to take you out. BUT THE LORD sustained you. – Kept you alive!
There have been times that natural things could have taken me out, but the LIVING WORD sustained me – kept me alive!*

f. **What kept Caleb alive? Another Word.**

Back to Numbers 14:24

Numbers 14:24 (NKJV) – *But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it.*

- g. **Numbers 14:26-30 (NKJV)** – *²⁶And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, ²⁷“How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who complain against Me? I have heard the complaints which the children of Israel make against Me. ²⁸Say to them, ‘As I live,’ says the LORD, ‘just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: ²⁹The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. ³⁰**Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, you shall by no means enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in.**”*

Numbers 14:36-38 (NKJV) – *³⁶Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land, ³⁷those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the LORD. ³⁸**But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive, of the men who went to spy out the land.***

NOTE: What was the supernatural power that kept Joshua and Caleb Alive? **The Word from the Lord –**

- *The Word kept them alive when others died of illness.*
- *The Word kept them alive when others were killed by enemies.*
- *The Word kept them alive when others died of the harmful conditions of the wildness.*
- *The Living Word kept them alive!*

- *The Word also kept him alive for 45 more years. While those who doubted died off in the wilderness. Not only was he alive, He was Strong – the Lord can keep you Strong!*

h. Caleb Inherits Hebron

Joshua 14:6, 10-13 (NKJV) – ⁶ Then the children of Judah came to Joshua in Gilgal. And Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him: “You know the word which the LORD said to Moses the man of God concerning you and me in Kadesh Barnea’ ¹⁰And now, behold, **the LORD has kept me alive, as He said**, these forty-five years, ever since the LORD spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old. ¹¹As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in. ¹²**Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the LORD spoke in that day**; for you heard in that day how the Anakim were there, and that the cities were great and fortified. It may be that the LORD will be with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the LORD said.” ¹³**And Joshua blessed him, and gave Hebron to Caleb** the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance.

Note: What kept Caleb alive? What kept Caleb strong? The Word that He was carrying in His heart!

B. The Rhema Word

1. Two Gr. Words used for WORD in the New Testament

- a. **Logos** = refers to the constant written word which is recorded in the Bible.
- b. **Rhema** – refers to the personal speaking of God
This is the Word that gets in your heart.
This is the Word that God gives you understanding of.
This is the Word that comes alive.

Example – Patty and Mark 11:23

- c. **Romans 10:17 (NKJV)** – *So then Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word (Rhema) of God*
 - d. **Ephesians 6:17 (NKJV)** – *And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God – (Rhema of God)*
 - e. **Luke 4:4 (NKJV)** – *But Jesus answered and said, Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word of God – (Every Rhema of God)*
2. **Two people can hear the same WORD and not hear the same.**
- a. All of Israel had the LOGOS WORD – the promise of entering the Promised Land, BUT to CALEB and JOSHUA this word was RHEMA – It was REAL/LIVE to THEM.
 - b. Only Caleb and Joshua had this promise as RHEMA – A word that they took personal – a Word that included them.
 - c. A Word that is only words on a page will do nothing for you.
 - d. When the words on the page become RHEMA – Real/Living to you – They are life – They will KEEP YOU ALIVE – like Caleb.
 - e. The logos became Rhema to Caleb, from his head to his spirit. It changed his spirit, and no one could talk him out of the promise.
 - f. Many people are running around with LOGOS in their head, but it never becomes RHEMA getting down into their heart. Their spirit is never changed.
 - g. A Rhema Word will move you.
 - Caleb to stand against the multitude.
 - Abraham to get out of his house and leave all behind.
 - Changed Saul of Tarsus into Paul the Apostle.
 - Peter from a fisherman to a Fisher of men.
3. **Turn the Logos into Rhema**
- a. Read and meditate in the written word of God until it becomes Rhema.
 - b. Pay attention when a specific scripture stands out.
 - c. You will know the difference when the Word drops from your head into your heart/spirit.

- d. Now, you have the Sword of The Spirit that will work for you in regard to that specific Word.
- e. Get Logos but make sure you are getting Rhema.
- f. Note: It wasn't those who had the most LOGOS (Religious People) who moved by great faith, it was those who got a RHEMA – *woman with the issue of blood, Jairus and others.*

C. Paul's Rhema

1. Paul had a RHEMA WORD

Acts 25:21-25 (NKJV) – ²¹*But after long abstinence from food, then Paul stood in the midst of them and said, “Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss. ²²And now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. ²³For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, ²⁴saying, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.’ ²⁵Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me.*

- a. The storm couldn't kill him.
 - b. The shipwreck couldn't kill him.
 - c. The snake couldn't kill him.
 - d. The natives couldn't kill him.
 - e. Paul had a LIVING WORD!
- #### 2. There is a Word:
- a. That can protect you.
 - b. That can heal you.
 - c. That can save you.
 - d. That can SUSTAIN you – Keep you Alive.
 - e. There is a WORD that storms cannot prevail against.
 - f. There is a WORD that poison from snakes cannot kill.
 - g. There is a WORD that can keep you afloat when you should drown.

h. A Regeneration Word – that keeps giving life/sustaining you through all things.

3. The Sustaining Word at Work

- a. On the Island of Malta, God gave Paul favor with Publius who lodged them in his estate. FAVOR – PROVISION – the Word at work.
- b. After three months when Paul got ready to leave the Island, the islanders honored them with substance and wealth to provide all things that were necessary for Paul’s Journey – PROVISION FOR THE JOURNEY – the Word at work.
- c. God sent and ALEXANDRIAN SHIP to take Paul on the rest of his journey – The Word at Work.
 - The Alexandrian ships are known well in history.
 - They were not just sailing vessels they were of a special fleet.
 - The dimensions of these ships were comparable to the USS CONSTITUTION.
 - Barnes – *Why the ship was on the coast of Asia Minor is not known – but it is probable that it had been driven out of its way by adverse winds or storms.*
PERSONAL NOTE: God sent it for Paul.
 - When God sent Paul’s transportation – He sent one of the biggest most impressionable ships of the day.
- d. When Paul arrived, he got special treatment.
He was not removed with the rest of the passengers.

Acts 28:16 (NKJV) – *Now when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard; but Paul was permitted to dwell by himself with the soldier who guarded him.*

- e. When Paul arrived – His accusers had failed to send their letters or complaint/charges against Paul/or they had not arrived.

Acts 28:21 (NKJV) – *Then they said to him, “We neither received letters from Judea concerning you, nor have any of the brethren who came reported or spoken any evil of you.*

NOTE: God can go before you in court – DROP THE CHARGES

f. **Paul got to preach the Gospel.**

Acts 28:22-24 (NLT) – ²²*But we want to hear what you believe, for the only thing we know about this movement is that it is denounced everywhere.* ²³*So a time was set, and on that day a large number of people came to Paul’s lodging. He explained and testified about the Kingdom of God and tried to persuade them about Jesus from the Scriptures. Using the law of Moses and the books of the prophets, he spoke to them from morning until evening.* ²⁴*Some were persuaded by the things he said, but others did not believe*

g. **The Continued Blessing of the Word.**

Acts 22:28-31 (NLT) – ²⁸*So I want you to know that this salvation from God has also been offered to the Gentiles, and they will accept it.* ³⁰*For the next two years, Paul lived in Rome at his own expense. He welcomed all who visited him, ³¹boldly proclaiming the Kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ. And no one tried to stop him.*

h. Concluding Notes:

There is more to the Apostle Paul’s life.

There is more trouble/arrest/etc.

However – the Word that was for that season – proved to be LIFE SUSTAINING. Paul regenerated again and again.

IV. Closure/Personal Examples

A. The Lord spoke to me about Rest.

1. Matt 11:28, I will give you rest.
2. Ps 4:8 – In peace, I will lie down and sleep, for you alone Lord make me lie down in safety.

3. Is 26:3 – You will keep in perfect peace those whose mind are steadfast because they trust in you.
4. His Word – produced a rest in the midst of a battle.
5. His Word sustained me – and brought me through.
6. His Word kept me.
7. His Word was supplying LIFE.

B. You can rest in His Word!