

Clarity: Building For Blessing

MAY 16, 2021

I. INTRODUCTION TO CLARITY

A. God will often do the structural before He does the supernatural.

Acts 15:23-29 With them they sent the following letter: The apostles and elders, your brothers, To the Gentile believers in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia: Greetings. We have heard that some went out from us without our authorization and disturbed you, troubling your minds by what they said. So we all agreed to choose some men and send them to you with our dear friends Barnabas and Paul— men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore we are sending Judas and Silas to confirm by word of mouth what we are writing. It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements: You are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality. You will do well to avoid these things. Farewell.

B. Clarity removes obstacles to blessing in our lives.

- With clarity comes confidence and purpose.

II. THREE CLARITY DECISIONS FOR BUILDING WITH BLESSING

1. *I Know Who I Am*

A. You are a child of God because of Jesus... Nothing more. Nothing Less

Ephesians 2:8-10 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

B. You are saved by the grace of God.

- You are not saved by how you live.

C. You live for God because you are saved.

- You are not saved by good works, but you will do good works because you are saved.

- You are the builder of your blessing.

Joshua 24:14-15 “Now fear the LORD and serve Him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

2. I Know What I Believe

A. What we believe becomes the blueprint for how we will live.

1 Peter 1:23-25 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. For, “All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord endures forever.” And this is the word that was preached to you.

B. Believe in God’s Living Word.

Hebrews 4:12 For the Word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

C. Believe in God’s Enduring Word.

1 Peter 1:23-25 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. For, “All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of the Lord endures forever.” And this is the word that was preached to you.

- When we throw our own ideas at God’s Word, we sabotage the work of the Word in our lives.

3. I Know How I Will Live

A. Live in a way that pleases God.

Matthew 7:24-27 “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. 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. 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. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

B. Live in a way that honors others.

- Influence the culture more than the culture influences you.
- You will reap what you sow.
- Blessings Boomerang

C. Stay on the level.

- Build for Blessing!