Dealing With Delay

By Bob Brasset

The Bible gives Abraham as an example of faith. “And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body already dead (since he was about 100 years old), and the deadness of Sarah’s womb.” (Romans 4:19)

The Greek word translated in this verse ‘not consider’ is the word katanao. It can also be translated ‘to contemplate’ or ‘to attentively consider’ or to observe fully.’ The implication here is that Abraham fully considered two realities. Firstly, he considered his own and Sarah’s body. He knew that they were well past child-bearing years. He didn’t deny reality. He didn’t grow strong in faith because he refused to acknowledge his natural circumstances. He simply saw another reality. In fact, he saw both dimensions. He saw the natural and the spiritual. He had received revelation from God. That was a firm, spiritual reality for him.

Revelation is the superimposing of God’s reality and God’s plan on the circumstances of your life. It is the blueprint of God that shows you where you are going. When the word says ‘Abraham did not consider his own body’, it doesn’t mean Abraham denied his own body. It means that he did not consider the deadness of his own body, and his wife’s body, as the final answer. He saw what God saw more vividly than he saw what the devil saw.

How he did this and how he continued for 25 years strong in faith is a matter of focus and what he entered was for greater than the promise itself. He walked in and lived in the realm of God’s own supernatural presence. Once we learn the secret of abiding in that realm, no delay will ever cause us to loose hope and nothing will be impossible. Abraham considered God’s direct promise to him so superior to natural reality that it carried more weight than natural reality.

Faith gives us this insight into the unseen realm showing it’s tangible nature. This was certainly Paul’s perspective. “...While we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal in the heavens.” (2 Corinthians 4:1)

Paul did not say we deny those things which are seen. He was saying the things which are seen are not the final answer. God, in His eternal realm, has the final answer.

My friend Marc Brisbois, in writing on Overcoming Deferred Hope, in his April – June 2003 newsletter, said,

“The greatest joy of having a promise is not the receiving of the thing promised. The greatest joy and reward of faith is its ability to take us above the plain of the natural. It enables us to transcend the fickle passions of human ‘wants’, to live in the timeless presence of the Everlasting Father. The Words of Promise are not just IOU’s we one day hope to collect on. Rather they are windows into eternity. They give us the means to bask in the reality of the Lord’s timeless dominion. With this resource in hand, maintaining one’s confession of confidence is a simple task, no matter how long the wait.”

**Eternal Spiritual Reality**

The principle is: spirit controls matter. The spiritual realm is eternal, immortal, invisible, and incorruptible and is infinitely more powerful than the natural realm. This does not negate the natural realm. The natural-material realm is real too, but it is
subservient to the spiritual. It is temporal. It is subject to delay, death and corruption. However, it is still real and the day is coming when the mortal will put on immortality. We will one day enjoy a new heaven and a new earth.

Eastern religions and mind-science cults tend to deny natural reality. They say that sickness, sin and disease are just an illusion. That kind of thinking is not scriptural.

Sometimes Christians teach people to deny or ignore sicknesses. Acknowledging sickness or impairment while trying to produce faith is considered to be walking in unbelief. Instead of denying natural circumstances, I encourage people to superimpose God’s word to them personally. They can then wage a good warfare with what God has spoken over them. What God speaks is eternal, incorruptible, and substantial. There is no limit to its power. And the title deed to this massively abundant, eternal, supernatural realm is FAITH.

Dutch Sheets, in one of his teachings, describes how faith grows in us. It begins as a tiny seed. He tells us that what we do after a seed is planted will determine whether or not it bears fruit in us.

One Healing Method

One way Christians can get healed is by using the Word of God to do effective warfare against infirmity. Here’s the effect of using that sword. “For the Word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” (Hebrews 4:12)

When God speaks His powerful word to us, along with that revelation from Him, comes tremendous ability and power. This power and ability is able to destroy all that hinders healing.

One of the greatest battles we as Christians must wage is the battle of passivity – the inclination to lay back and allow the enemy to walk all over us. We need to fight the good fight of faith. A ‘good fight’ is one we win. When the lion attacked King David’s lamb, what did King David do? He ripped the lion’s jaws apart. When or if we become ill, we need to resist that invasion and intrusion into our well-being with all our spiritual (and natural) resources.

Dutch Sheets teaches on the amplified version of that Hebrews 4 verse we just quoted. It gives us tremendous insight into the effectiveness of the Word of God. Again, Hebrews 4:12 says, “The Word of God is living (actually it’ll never die –from the Greek word zoe, which means life of God, meaning actively alive. It says also it is active. Active means energos – working, toiling, effective. So – an amplification of this could be:

The Word of God is alive, actively alive. It is filled with the life of God, and is full of His energy. It toills and works in us and is operative and effectual.”

It also says it is piercing. That word in Greek means competent, ample, sufficient, attaining the desired purpose. OK, let’s ad that one to our amplification.

It is sharp enough and is fully competent, (adequate, sufficient, ample and has enough ability) to channel itself through the various areas of the soul and spirit, reaching it’s desired end and attaining its desired goal. It is fully adequate. It will arrive! And it will accomplish its goal once it gets there!

Wow! What a promise. The next part is the division of soul and spirit. The word
division from the Greek is merismes and it means separation, distribution, to divide, to apportion. The Word of God will divide or separate. Where we desperately need separation is in separating out impurities, distributing to each part what it needs and cutting off what it doesn’t need.

Now, let’s deal with the phrase, ‘and be able to judge’, there is verse 12. The word judge in Greek is kerithikos and it means to judge or critique. One more time, here we go with the amplification.

The Word of God is alive, actively alive. It is filled with the life of God and is full of His energy. It toils and works in us and is operative and effectual. It is sharp enough and fully competent (adequate, sufficient, ample, has enough ability) to channel itself through the various areas of the soul and spirit, reaching it’s desired end and attaining it’s desired goal. It will arrive and will accomplish its goal once it gets there! It will divide between soul and spirit, apportioning to each what is needed, as it critiques the thought and intentions of the heart.

Now, let’s add the amplification of verse 13. When necessary, it lays the knife to the throat of anything found in the soul that is contrary to His Word.

AMEN!

Fully contemplate your natural reality, whatever it is. But, don’t stop there. Then, superimpose God’s BLUEPRINT, from His Word, over the devil’s plans.