

Enlargement

August 30, 2020

Today I would like to speak on the subject of enlargement.

God wants to enlarge us, He wants us to think bigger.

The Lord is about to do great things in the Earth.

We are about to experience the greatest revival of human history.

In Joel 2:28-32, God promises to pour out his Spirit upon all flesh.

Awesome signs / wonders, before the great/terrible day the Lord.

This only had a partial fulfillment in the book of Acts.

In Isaiah 54:2, we are told: “enlarge the place of thy tent...lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes.”

We are to prepare ourselves and our church for great increase.

Multitudes will be coming to our churches.

God said to Abraham, before he had any children.

I will cause you to grow into a multitude. A Father of many nations.

Let's not limit God. We need our vision and expectation enlarged.

Remember the prayer of Jabez. He asked God for five things:

1Chron. 4:10: “And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying,

Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my [border], and

that thine hand might be with me, (presence, protection / provision)

and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me!

And God granted him what he requested.”

In Luke 17:5, the apostles asked: Lord increase our faith. Matt.17:20:

“And Jesus said unto them...if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder

place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.”

Faith is like muscle! It is developed by exercise, and good nutrition. With God's faith in us, we can command situations to change. Have the attitude - God can use me.

But also remember, faith works in a soft heart. Israel hardened their hearts in the wilderness, and could not believe God for anything.

We need to think bigger! Sometimes we are too logical. Our natural mind can be an enemy of faith. The Lord fed 5,000 people with just a handful of food. Nothing is impossible with God. We need to think bigger.

In John 15, we have the illustration of Christ being the Vine, We are the branches, we draw all our life from Him. In this illustration Christ makes it clear, he wants us to bear much fruit. 15:8 "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit;" God is glorified when we bear much fruit. He further states in 15:16:

"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: God wants good fruit, much fruit, fruit that remains. He also wants the fruit of the Spirit mightily developed in us.

The right balance on prosperity

In Philippians 4:12, Paul states: "I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need." Joseph knew how to have victory in the dungeon, and on the throne.

There are times when we have much, other times when we have little. We need to experience both the good times and lean times.

Proverbs 30:8-9 States: “give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain.”

We should never take the vow poverty.

But also - Lord, I do not want more than I can handle, become proud.

Often prosperity makes people forget God, and not depend on him.

Poverty also, does not produce anything godly either.

We need both the good times and the difficult times.

But, God wants us to be spiritually rich.

With much of the fruit of the Spirit. His divine nature produce in us.

He wants our prayers to save many people.

He wants to fill us with his Word and wisdom.

We want to bring God much honor,

And help many other people know and love him tremendously.

When we get to heaven, we want to bring many other people with us.

So, let's be rich with the right riches! We want eternal treasure.

Psa.4:1, David declared, you have enlarged me when I was in distress.

Difficulties and trials enlarge us, and prepares for a greater blessing.

They give us an ability to receive more from God.

In Isaiah 60:1-5 - it states, “arise shine for that light has come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For behold darkness shall cover the Earth, and gross darkness the people. But the Lord shall rise up on thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the people and leaders shall come to the brightness of thy rising. v5 the abundance of the Gentile shall be converted onto thee.”

The Greatest revival comes, in a time when he is darkest.

There is a beautiful promise in the book of Job 8:7: - “Though your beginning was small, yet your latter end shall increase mightily.”

**Even though we may have had a very small beginning,
God can make our latter end very fruitful.**

Why does God bless us?

**So we can bless many others! And bring pleasure to God.
But often we must first experience small and humiliating times.**

America

**God has blessed America, so that we can be a light to the world.
But today, many Christians are not doing a very good job.**

America is no longer a good example to the world.

When God blesses us, what will we use our enlargement for?

Will we use our blessing to help others, or become slack, careless?

Paul said, he was a debtor to all men. Rom.1:14 why?

God forgave him of a huge debt, he persecuted 10,000 Christians.

God totally forgave him.

Now he felt in debt to share this gospel truth to everyone.

God gave him tremendous mercy, to show mercy to many others.

There was a revival in New Zealand years ago.

God asked them a question. What will you use your blessings for?

Every gift or blessing we have - is so we can bless others.

We are not to selfishly fill ourselves, and forget others.

“Lord, give me more so that I can bless others.”

God gives us certain strengths, to help our mate where they're weak.

**All through the Bible we have these words:
Increase, abound, abundance, enlarge, multiply, fruitfulness.
And many other words that signify enlargement.**

**In Deuteronomy chapter 6 and 8, God tells them over and over -
I am bringing you into a good land.
But be careful when you prosper, not to forget the Lord your God.**

**This is the reason God takes his time to work in our lives,
Before he blesses us tremendously.**

Very few can handle abundance.

God is preparing us for something very big.

Few are able to handle prosperity

**Many in the Bible, later had terrible failures. Samson, Uzziah - “when
he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction: 2 Chr 26:16**

Prosperity can be dangerous. Tendency not to depend on God.

We want to be used by God, to our maximum potentials.

God knows our limits. Lord give me as much is possible.

But not one bit more than I can handle.

Lord, keep me perfectly on course to the finish line.

I want to hear you say: Well done good and faithful servant.

Let's look at the warnings given in Deuteronomy chapter 6 and 8

**“And it shall be, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into
the land which he sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to
Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not,
And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells
digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou
plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full; Then beware
lest thou forget the LORD, which brought thee forth out of the land of
Egypt, from the house of bondage.” Deuteronomy 6:10-12, KJV.**

“For the LORD thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey; A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass.

When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the LORD thy God for the good land which he hath given thee. Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day: Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein; And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied;

Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint; Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end;

And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.”

Deuteronomy 8:7-18

All these things are for our Learning, and warning.