

Upping Your Vision **Pastor John Carmichael**

[Act 26:19 NASB95] 19 "So, King Agrippa, I did not prove disobedient to the heavenly vision,

- The movie "UP" has many themes in the movie. The biggest was vision. He wanted to go to Paradise Falls in South America. They had hardships. His wife passed. He tried to go alone, but inadvertently took someone with him. He did something daring (floated his house with balloons). Encountered an enemy. Realized that he needed another vision.
- Here Paul speaks about a vision. The vision happened when Jesus confronted him. [Act 9:3-6 NASB95] 3 As he was traveling, it happened that he was approaching Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him; 4 and he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" 5 And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" And He [said,] "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting, 6 but get up and enter the city, and it will be told you what you must do."
- During trying times, we need to raise our vision. The enemy wants us to lose the vision God has for our lives.

How can we "up" (raise) our vision to meet God's?

Often we there are things we don't know or what do not to fulfill the vision for our lives.

I. What do we need to know in order to fulfill the vision in our lives?

- a. God has a plan from you.
 - i. [Gal 1:16 NASB95] 16 to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood,
 - ii. [Eph 3:8 NASB95] 8 To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ,
- b. God has a part for us to play.
 - i. [Col 4:17 NASB95] 17 Say to Archippus, "Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it."
- c. God has to be the source of the vision.
 - i. [Hab 2:2-3 NASB95] 2 Then the LORD answered me and said, "Record the vision And inscribe [it] on tablets, That the one who reads it may run. 3 "For the vision is yet for the appointed time; It hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; For it will certainly come, it will not delay.

II. What will it take to fulfill the vision in our lives?

- a. God wants us to surrender to Jesus and accept His Will for our lives.
 - i. [Phl 1:21 NASB95] 21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.
- b. God wants us to include others in the vision.
 - i. Barnabas, Timothy, Silas, Luke, and others.
- c. God wants us to endure through hardships.
 - i. [2Ti 3:11 NASB95] 11 persecutions, [and] sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium [and] at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me!
- d. God wants us to believe Him.
 - i. [Phl 1:19-20 NASB95] 19 for I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, 20 according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I will not be put to shame in anything, but [that] with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

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- ii. Joseph was called of God. That vision forced him to trust [Psa 105:19 NASB95]
19 Until the time that his word came to pass, The word of the LORD tested him.
- **As part of your surrender to God, allow Him to set the vision in your life that includes others and expands the Kingdom.**