

Times Two pt6 – You Will Embrace His Promise

Dr. John Carmichael

[2Ki 4:8-17 NASB95] 8 Now there came a day when Elisha passed over to Shunem, where there was a prominent woman, and she persuaded him to eat food. And so it was, as often as he passed by, he turned in there to eat food. 9 She said to her husband, "Behold now, I perceive that this is a holy man of God passing by us continually. 10 "Please, let us make a little walled upper chamber and let us set a bed for him there, and a table and a chair and a lampstand; and it shall be, when he comes to us, [that] he can turn in there." 11 One day he came there and turned in to the upper chamber and rested. 12 Then he said to Gehazi his servant, "Call this Shunammite." And when he had called her, she stood before him. 13 He said to him, "Say now to her, 'Behold, you have been careful for us with all this care; what can I do for you? Would you be spoken for to the king or to the captain of the army?'" And she answered, "I live among my own people." 14 So he said, "What then is to be done for her?" And Gehazi answered, "Truly she has no son and her husband is old." 15 He said, "Call her." When he had called her, she stood in the doorway. 16 Then he said, "At this season next year you will embrace a son." And she said, "No, my lord, O man of God, do not lie to your maidservant." 17 The woman conceived and bore a son at that season the next year, as Elisha had said to her.

- That is too good to be true.
- This woman did not want to get her hopes up. Yet, she was able to embrace her son.

What does this story tell us about experiencing His promises in our lives?

Here are three truths about us experiencing His promises in our lives.

I. God wants us to give.

- a. V. 8
- b. Being a giver is one of the ways to receive the blessing. [3Jo 1:2, 5-8 NASB95] 2 Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers. ... 5 Beloved, you are acting faithfully in whatever you accomplish for the brethren, and especially [when they are] strangers; 6 and they have testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God. 7 For they went out for the sake of the Name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. 8 Therefore we ought to support such men, so that we may be fellow workers with the truth.
- c. We give of our time, talent, and treasure.
- d. [2Co 9:6-8 NASB95] 6 Now this [I say,] he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each one [must do] just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;
- e. Decide to become a giver.

II. God wants us to honor.

- a. V. 9-11
- b. The Thessalonians honored the word that Paul preached. It was the Word that they honored from him that was effective. [1Th 2:13 NASB95] 13 For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted [it] not [as] the word of men, but [for] what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.
- c. What you honor, you will receive from.

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- d. How can you honor God? How can you honor family? How can you honor church/leadership?
- e. Make a decision to honor God, His ways, and His people.

III. God wants us to embrace His promise.

- a. V. 12-17
 - b. God has made a promise. [Exo 23:22, 25-26 NASB95] 22 "But if you truly obey his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries. ... 25 "But you shall serve the LORD your God, and He will bless your bread and your water; and I will remove sickness from your midst. 26 "There shall be no one miscarrying or barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days.
 - c. When we do our part, God will do His. [Heb 6:10-12 NASB95] 10 For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints. 11 And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, 12 so that you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.
 - d. Dare to believe the promises of God. She had a hard time believing.
 - e. Timing. Promise---- Period of time---- Performance of promise.
 - f. God is not trying to frustrate you. He will do His part, even if you do not have "perfect faith."
 - g. This was not an immaculate conception. They had their part in this miracle.
 - h. Get ready to embrace your promise.
- **As you give and honor God, you will embrace every promise God has made to you.**