

Times Two pt12 – The Eyes of Faith

Dr. John Carmichael

[2Ki 6:11-17 NASB95] 11 Now the heart of the king of Aram was enraged over this thing; and he called his servants and said to them, "Will you tell me which of us is for the king of Israel?" 12 One of his servants said, "No, my lord, O king; but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom." 13 So he said, "Go and see where he is, that I may send and take him." And it was told him, saying, "Behold, he is in Dothan." 14 He sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city. 15 Now when the attendant of the man of God had risen early and gone out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was circling the city. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" 16 So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." 17 Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." And the LORD opened the servant's eyes and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

- Children go into panic if they cannot see their parents in the store. When it looks like we are alone we battle a fear that is deep.
- To the servant of Elisha, it looked like they were alone.
- In our story:
 - The servant relied upon his natural eyes. Of course he was afraid.
 - Elisha gave him a word that contradicted that the servant saw.
 - Elisha prayed that God would help him see what the Word declared.
 - God opened the servant's eyes.
 - God had already prepared for the triumph of both of them.

What do we need to know about seeing with the eyes of faith?

Here are five essential truths about learning to see with the eyes of faith.

- I. **When you do not see through the eyes of faith, you have every reason to fear.**
 - a. What realm are you living in.
 - b. God has called you to be a supernatural person, not just earthly flesh.
 - c. [Gal 5:16-17, 25 NASB] 16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. 17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. ... 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.
 - d. [Num 13:33 NASB] 33 "There also we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak are part of the Nephilim); and we became like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight."
 - e. Everyday resist the temptation to walk in the flesh. Develop your spirit. Prayer. Time in the Word. Worship.
- II. **When you hear the Word of God, you develop your eyes of faith.**
 - a. The Word of God will contradict what you are seeing.
 - b. V. 16
 1. Command – Do not fear
 2. Promise – for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.
 - c. This was not empty hope or wishful thinking, it was God's Word.
 - d. Get the right mix.
 1. Mix it with faith.
 2. Do not mix it with anything else.
- III. **When you pray, the Holy Spirit will open your eyes of faith.**

Times Two pt12 – The Eyes of Faith

Dr. John Carmichael

- a. When we pray based upon the Word, it causes our eyes to open.
- b. We are not blind to the situation.
- c. We are not to ignore the situation.
- d. [Eph 1:16-19 NASB] 16 do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention [of you] in my prayers; 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. 18 [I pray that] the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. [These are] in accordance with the working of the strength of His might
- e. Your previous lack of sight will not keep you from ever seeing God's ways. Pray the Word and watch your eyes open.

IV. When you see through the eyes of faith, you see your situation differently.

- a. When God opened the eyes of the servant of Elisha, he saw his situation differently.
- b. When the vision of God gets inside of you, you know what will happen before it happens.
- c. [Gen 15:5 NASB95] 5 And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."
- d. When Abraham focused on the picture of the stars, he does not become flawless, but he becomes faithful.
- e. Abraham is our example of walking by faith. [Rom 4:16-21 NASB95] 16 For this reason [it is] by faith, in order that [it may be] in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, 17 (as it is written, "A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS HAVE I MADE YOU") in the presence of Him whom he believed, [even] God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist. 18 In hope against hope he believed, so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had been spoken, "SO SHALL YOUR DESCENDANTS BE." 19 Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; 20 yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform.
- f. We you allow God to open your eyes of faith, you will become more stable in your faith.

V. When you see through the eyes of faith, you find out that God has already helped you.

- a. Those fiery horses and chariots did not show up when he prayed, they were already there.
- b. [2Pe 1:3 NASB] 3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.
- c. Paul said, "[Col 1:13 NASB] 13 For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,
- d. Be assured: You are surrounded. You are surrounded by heaven and everything you need to walk in victory.

- Decide to not live by the natural world, but by what God says.
- Receive the Word of God as what you should expect to see in your life.
- Pray that God will help you see what He has promised you

Times Two pt12 – The Eyes of Faith
Dr. John Carmichael

- Trust that God has provided the answer.