## According to Thy Word Be It Unto Me in 2024

## A Teaching of Caleb's Promise Ministry

This morning I'm going to teach on a subject rarely taught in most churches, but it is critical to the Spiritual and physical success of a Believer in this earth. My prayer is that you are encouraged and motivated and you put into practice what you learn today.

## I. INTRODUCTION

#### Luke 1:37-38

37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.

38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; **be it unto me according to Thy Word**. And the angel departed from her.

Mary believed the unbelievable and received the impossible.

Everything in God's Word is unbelievable to the natural, physical mind.

## The title of today's teaching is "According to Thy Word Be It Unto Me in 2024."

My question to you is, as Believers, "What is Going to Happen to You in 2024?"

**Is God a planner?** Yes, of course He is. In Genesis Chapter 1, do you ever see God saying, "Let there be" and then saying, "Wow, that's neat. I didn't expect that"? No, of course not. God has a vision and plans (goals and objectives) for everything. God saw it before He created it. **God has eternity planned!** 

You can see God's planning in Genesis 1 with creation. You can see it in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. You can see it in someone being saved, someone being healed, being prospered financially, being delivered from an addiction, being set free from fear and worry.

God made us, Believers, in His image and likeness. This means we are also expected by God to be planners.

Acts 2:23 and Revelation 18:3 teach us God planned EVERYTHING before the foundation of the world.

# Acts 2:23

Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

## **Revelation 18:3**

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship Him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

The 1979 Harvard MBA study on goal setting analyzed the graduating class to determine how many had set goals and had a plan for their attainment.

Prior to graduation, it was determined that:

- 84% of the entire class had set no goals at all
- 13% of the class had set written goals but had no concrete plans
- 3% of the class had both written goals and concrete plans

#### The results?

10 years later, the 13% of the class that had set written goals but had not created plans, were making twice as much money as the 84% of the class that had set no goals at all.

The 3% of the class that had both written goals and a plan, were making ten times as much as the rest of the 97% of the class.

Have you heard the secular expression, "failing to plan is planning to fail?"

Have you heard the secular expression, "Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results?"

So, why do we, as Believers, fail to plan each year, yet expect different results?

# II. WHAT DOES GOD HAVE TO SAY ABOUT PLANNING?

#### Proverbs 29:18

Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

Is this verse a commandment from God? Yes, every Word in the Scriptures is a commandment of what to do and what not to do. And it is for our good, our promotion, and for us to experience God's best for us.

And, although the verse says "the people perish," don't think this is meant only for a collective group of people. Notice what God says in the second half of the verse. "But he....." This is addressed to an individual – **YOU AND ME.** 

Notice what God says in the first part of Proverbs 29:18. If a Believer doesn't have a vision, The Believer, will perish. What does this mean? The word "vision" in the verse is the Hebrew Word "chazon" which means "write the vision or revelation."

The word "perish" in the verse is the Hebrew Word "para" which means "**the people are let loose, lacks restraint.**"

The Holy Spirit is saying a Believer without a written vision or revelation, is without restraint and will wander. Another way of saying it is a Believer without a vision is like a ship without a rudder. The ship goes where the wind blows.

The second part of Proverbs 29:18 makes it clear what a Believer can expect if they "keep" the law. The Scripture says, "happy is he." Happy is the Hebrew word, "esher" which means, "happiness, blessedness." What does it mean to "keep" the law. It means to "watch, preserve, keep." Simply put, it means to observe or perform the law – The Word.

# III. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DON'T PLAN?

## Ecclesiastes 10:6-7

6 Folly is set in great dignity, and the rich sit in low place.

7 I have seen servants upon horses, and princes walking as servants upon the earth.

## Matthew 25:29

For unto every one that hath [wisdom] shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not [wisdom] shall be taken away even that which he hath.

# RECALL THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS LEADING UP TO THIS VERSE. 5 – 2 – 1 talent

What will we hear and experience from Jesus Christ if we are obedient to His commandment to plan? The first two servants received the same reward for their faithfulness, not based on the size of their responsibilities.

## Matthew 25:23

His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

## Numbers 14:28

Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in Mine ears, so will I do to you:

## Numbers 14:30

Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I sware to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

# RECALL THE LORD'S COMMAND TO POSSESS THE PROMISED LAND AND THE CHILDREN'S FAILURE TO OBEY GOD'S PLAN

# IV. WHAT IS GOD'S VISION FOR US AS BELIEVERS ON THIS EARTH?

## TO BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

#### Recite Genesis 12:2-3.

In order to be a blessing to others, we must first ALLOW ourselves to be blessed.

## HOW DO WE ALLOW OURSELVES TO BE BLESSED?

#### III John 2

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

It starts first with prospering our soul, our Spiritual walk, so we can then prosper our health and our finances and material possessions.

#### Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace [shalom], and not of evil, to give you an expected end [future and a hope].

## John 16:13

Howbeit when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: **and He will shew you things to come.** 

God has a plan for you every year. And God wants us to come to Him to get the plan for all areas of our life: Spiritual, physical, financial, and material.

# V. HOW DO WE KNOW GOD WANTS TO BE INVOLVED IN OUR PLANNING?

## Psalm 127:1

Except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

## Psalm 37:3

Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

## Psalm 37:5

Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass.

## Psalm 37:23

The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and He delighteth in his way.

## Proverbs 3:6

In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.

## Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

# VI. HOW DO WE FIND OUT GOD'S VISION FOR US IN 2024?

## James 1:5

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

## Proverbs 16:3

Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.

## Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

## <u>Joshua 1:8</u>

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

## Proverbs 21:5

The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.

# FOUR TYPES OF PLANNERS AMONG BELIEVERS

- 1. Those that don't plan
- 2. Those that plan as they go along
- 3. Those that plan but don't stick to their plans
- 4. Those that plan and do.

# WHICH TYPE OF PLANNER ARE YOU? WHICH TYPE OF PLANNER DO YOU NEED TO BE?

## YES, PLAN AND DO.

#### James 1:22

But be ye doers of The Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

#### VII. CLOSE

Rather than wander through 2024 hoping for the best, why don't you come before God in each of the areas in your life (spiritual, physical, financial, and material) and ask God what He wants for you in 2024.

Spend some time with Him. He will answer you.

It may not be the same moment you ask, or that day, or that week, but be in meditation about it with Him, and He will answer you.

James 1:3-8 and Joshua 1:8 will explain to you how to approach your Father about 2024.

Write down what God speaks to you. That's part of the commandment of Proverbs 29:18 and Habakkuk 2:2:

#### Habakkuk 2:2

And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

Meditate it.

Decree it.

Receive it.

God wants the best for us in every year of our lives on this earth. He wants us to be a blessing to others and to shine forth His light into the earth. God's best for you in 2024 is summed up in Jeremiah 17:7-8.

#### Jeremiah 17: 7-8

7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

8 For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.