Learning Obedience

Shalom

In the Torah portion called *Vayeitzei* found in **Genesis 28:10—32:3** that is "**And he went,**" in Hebrew, Jacob left his father's house and the land of promise **to be prepared by God** to take his place as a patriarch of Israel. The preparation **process is not always easy**, nor pleasant, but through it, Jacob learned obedience to the voice of God.

He happened upon a certain place and spent the night there, for the sun had set. So he took one of the stones from the place and put it by his head and lay down in that place. He dreamed: All of a sudden, there was a stairway set up on the earth and its top reaching to the heavens—and behold, angels of God going up and down on it! Surprisingly, Adonai was standing on top of it and He said, "I am Adonai, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie, I will give it to you and to your seed. Your seed will be as the dust of the land, and you will burst forth to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed—and in your seed. Behold, I am with you, and I will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land, for I will not forsake you until I have done what I promised you." (Genesis 28:11-15 TLV)

Jacob repeated what God had promised, and as an act of thanksgiving, made it his confession. He said that what God had spoken was received by him as truth. At that moment he believed and released his trust in YHWH, and the call God had placed on him was set in motion. Many days and difficult times were in his future before the manifestation came, but the path to completion had begun to be revealed in his heart.

Then Jacob made a vow saying, "If God will be with me and watch over me on this way that I am going, and provide me food to eat and clothes to wear, and I return in shalom to my father's house, then Adonai will be my God." (Genesis 28:20-21 TLV)

Notice how the LORD uses His dealing with Jacob to show how He reveals His plans and purposes for each of us. The Holy Spirit reveals His *Torah* to those who will receive it for what it really is, **not law**, but the revelation of **the Teaching and Instruction of God**. *Torah* really includes **all sixty-six books of Scripture**. All the Word of God is alive! All that YHWH has chosen to reveal to mankind; all that He ordained to show us so that we might enter full and intimate relationship with Him through the Living Word of God, are given to us so that we, as well as those we read about, may choose to be trained through hearing and doing what He instructs.

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV)

For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12 ESV)

But the Counselor, the Ruach HaKodesh, Whom the Father will send in My Name, will teach you everything; that is, He will remind you of everything I have said to you. (John 14:26 CJB)

As we understand and believe His Word, putting His instructions into action by speaking and doing them, we position ourselves in His will which is receiving, in our hearts, the blessing called into being by God from the beginning. God's blessing cannot be realized by natural, carnal understanding, nor our intellect. The realm of faith is from the spirit. Our head knowledge is insufficient, and most often, counters our believing with faulty data. When it comes to agreeing with the all-knowing, all-sufficient, and almighty God, our spirits, the seat of the "New Creation," must take dominion. In the spirit, we know and see with God, therefore we must allow our spirit that is inhabited by the Spirit of God to be in the leadership role as God intended it to be. The Spirit-led individual will defeat the natural unbelieving tendencies of the soul by using the Spoken Word of God to transform the mental part of us to line up with the will of the Spirit. This is a process that requires us to maintain diligent focus on the life-giving power of the Word.

Praying the will of God is the key to answered prayer, and there is no greater, nor more powerful, way to pray than **speaking what God says in His Word as He brings it to our remembrance in every situation.**

So, what about it? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind. (1 Corinthians 14:15 CJB)

Now this is the confidence we have before Him—that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have the requests we have asked from Him. (1 John 5:14-15 TLV)

Staying focused, Terry

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