

GOD'S NEW DIMENSION

God intends for us to step into the new dimension He has for us, but we will have to take some steps to do so. He spoke to Abraham about looking to see what was in front of him:

“And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which Thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed forever” (Gen 13: 14-15)

God was saying to Abraham to see what He saw, a land that flowed with milk and honey, a land to possess. Abraham did not possess the land until he began to “see” what God saw. That is the way it is with us. If we cannot imagine, see, dream, or hope for “it,” we will not receive all God was for us. God wants us to see the new dimension He has for us and for us to step into it.

Jesus stepped into His new dimension. John had been preparing the way for Jesus (Mt. 3:1-3). Jesus had to step into that new dimension of the Good News that He would bring, but He first had to “fulfill all righteousness” (Mt 3:13-17). When Jesus was baptized, the Father affirmed Him as pleasing to Him because of His obedience. Jesus walked in obedience to the new dimension. The change was announced and affirmed to the world and then was tested (Lk.chp. 4).

Jesus went through tests to prove He was ready for the new dimension. He went through the testing of provision (stones to bread), providence (foreseeing care and guidance of God over Him), and protection (not tempting God). These tests compare to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride

of life (1Jn.2: 16). They also compare to the idea of a weak Messiah, limited to being a “prosperity” messiah, a “miracle” messiah, or a “political” messiah. Any of these would be less than what He is, the King of kings and Lord of lords, and the Source of all things.

The devil tried to give Jesus a vision of no provision. Jesus went through a tough situation for Him. But, it is not the situation we go through, but the training that is important. The move we make to the next dimension must be balanced with humility. The higher God takes us, the lower we have to go in self (ego). For Jesus to make His own provision would be to step away from God’s provision. He could have, but chose not to. We have to keep our priorities straight for God to bless us by taking us to the next level.

A higher level requires accountability and responsibility. If it is finances and goods we need, we are often tempted to go after them on our own. The temptation is in the process, not in the need. The enemy tries to get us to do it our way, in our own strength. Every step toward independence is a step away from God and the throne.

Jesus passed the tests and “...returned in the power of the spirit” (Lk.4: 14). At this point He began to speak forth His ministry to the religious people (Lk.4: 18-21). When He sat down in the seat reserved for Messiah, the people took on a war-like look, for they said in themselves, “Who does he think he is?” (v.22) “Is this not Joseph’s son?” but their remarks did not stop Jesus. He “saw” it first (Is.61: 1-2a) and then He began to speak it. He was tested in obscurity so that the quality of what was in Him could be viewed publicly. He was perfect in all His ways and it

manifested in a miracle ministry. That same thing, that same power – the Holy Spirit – is in us. We each will be tested in the same way to check the quality of the Word that is in us. Then and only then can we move over into the miracle ministry He has planned for us (Jn.14:12).

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