



CrossRoads Notes:

Turn your Bibles to Jeremiah 29:11-13

Title: The Necessity of Expectancy

Theme: The Need of Seeing Vision Through

Introduction: Let me give you some Biblical history. Despised and rejected at home in the place God had called the prophet Jeremiah to work, this prophet of God turns his thoughts to those whom God had carried off into captivity in Babylon.

(Jeremiah 29:8-9)

(Romans 1:28)

(Romans 1:21, 29)

(John 8:34)

Babylon, in the New Testament, is used literally and symbolically. Please note: In the Book of Revelation, Babylon is used symbolically four different times and she is referred to as a place of sin which causes others to sin.

(Revelations 14: 8)

(Revelations 16:19)

(Revelations 17:5)

(Revelations 18:2)

It is my understanding, when referring to Babylon symbolically, she represents all that is sinful and antagonistic to the Kingdom of God and to His children.

Proposition: I would propose to you that the world we live in today is not a friend of grace. It is very antagonistic to the Kingdom of God and to conservative Christians. However, although we live among a people who have hearts that disregard the things and the people of God, we can have expectancy that God will use us.

Interrogative Sentence: Can the child of God live a life of expectancy in the times we live today? Just what should be in the heart and life of the child of God who wants to be used of the Lord Jesus Christ?

Transitional Sentence: God sent a message in a letter, just like He has a message in the Word of God for the child of God who is always looking to go somewhere else to serve the Lord.

(Jeremiah 29:5-7)

(Ephesians 1:5) Christians become children of God only by adoption and grace.

The apostle Paul also tells us this truth. (Romans 8:12, 14-17)

(Philippians 1:23-26)

Jesus had expectancy which enabled Him to accomplish His Father's will. The apostle Paul had expectancy, for he said I am "Convinced of this." Thus, Paul was enabled to achieve all that the Lord had called him to do. It is a necessity that Christians have expectancy that God will keep His promises.
(Matthew 28:18-20)

Transitional Sentence: Even though we live in a land where the people are prone to sin and long to lead others into sin. Even though we live in a time where people are antagonistic to the Kingdom of God and to conservative Christians. We can have expectancy to do great things with God. The apostle Paul had expectancy for he writes "...a great door for effective work has opened to me." (1 Corinthians 16:3)

Illustration: Pastor/Teacher James Braga
(2 Timothy 2:15)

Transitional Sentence: Those who end up in the preaching and teaching ministry full time must expect the Lord to use them, thus, they make proper preparations and so do layman.

Biblical Illustration: The Prophet Amos

What the Holy Spirit wants you get from all this is the fact that God called a busy and prosperous man away from his secular pursuits to undertake a work of the Lord. (Who's Who in the Bible) God's people needed a word of exhortation from the Lord and he sent a faithful man to do the job. God will use anyone who is willing to follow His will. He can take you out of your busy successful schedule and use you briefly on Sunday morning, or Sunday or Wednesday night or any other time he needs you.

(Amos 7:12)

Christian layman at different times, like Amos will be read as having wrong motives. Satan will work over time to make the layman feel that his teaching or message or his service to the Lord is not needed and he would be better off working somewhere else.

(Jeremiah 7:14)

(Jeremiah 7:15)

What the Holy Spirit wants you to grasp is that Amos was what we would call a layman sent on an errand by the God who chooses and uses whomever He wills. Those who are called by God to do what ever He wills in what ever form of ministry He chooses need only to have the relationship with the Lord that Amos had. It is clear that he had ears to hear the voice of God and it is not out of line to say that he had expectancy that God was going to use him and enable him to complete the task.

Illustration: Pastor Rick Glowacki

Illustration: Many Quality Ministries, Attitude of Expectancy.

(2 Timothy 4:2) This principal of truth applies to all the spiritual gifts that the Holy Spirit

has given to the Church. Not only is it important to discover your gifts, it is a necessity that you be ready to exercise your gifts for the benefit of the Body of Christ.

Transitional Sentence: Many a child of God has expectancy in their labors with the Lord. There are three Biblical reasons for their anticipation in the Lord's work. 1.) Their Vision has Faith. 2.) Their Vision Breeds Fourth Boldness and 3.) Their Vision Birth's Fourth Persistence.

1.) "Vision Has Faith:" (Romans 1:16-17)

"Power" (*dunamis*) means might, energy, force and strength that is within God. (Philippians 4:12b-13)

2.) "Vision that Breeds Fourth Boldness:"

(Acts 4:1,18)

(Acts 4:29-31)

(2 Corinthians 3:12)

(Acts 9:27; 13:46; 14:3; 19:8; 28:31)

3.) "Vision that Births Fourth Persistence:"

(1 Corinthians 15:58)

"Labor" (*kopos*) means to toil, to work to the point of exhaustion and fatigue, to the point of just having to set down and rest. The practical application is never cease, never stop, never slacken up, or never quit. It is giving all you got like men playing sports or working hard in a hobby, putting all their heart in it.

(Galatians 6:9)

Praying a vision through to its completion is our wisdom and for our good interest. It is also our duty and the reward comes only as we see it through to the time of harvest.

Illustration: Garden

(Matthew 13:3-23)

Those who walk in expectancy know the truth that Paul is teaching in Galatians 6:9. The best reason for resisting weariness is that if the necessary preparation is done in all their work with the Lord, the harvest is sure to come.

In Closing: The church that knows and lives out "The Necessity of Expectancy" is a church that gets prepared for her work, stays steadfast to her calling and in due season reaps a great harvest for her diligent labor.

Illustration: George Whitefield

Do you know and live the "Necessity of Expectancy" in your calling and are you preparing to exercise you gifts to the point of exhaustion? Are you hungry for God's anointing or enablement? Let us pray!