

Looking unto Jesus

Healing—physical, emotional, and financial is God's will, heart, and delight for all people at all times. God's heart to heal reveals that He is a good, loving, and awesome God.

Today I want to focus on looking. What and Who we look to for anything is going to dictate and, in many cases, determine our outcome and result.

God has been teaching me how to become victorious through simply looking. When we look, we can experience the greatest level of victory in our lives.

- A. Hebrews 12:1-3 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.
 - a) Let us lay aside every weight
 - i) The word "weight" is referring to a burden or hindrance.
 - ii) Sin is not the only weight. Sickness and disease are a weight.
 - iii) Sickness, disease, sin will all beset us to the point that we will not be able to run with patience the race that is set before us.
 - Hebrews 6:12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through <u>faith and patience inherit the promises.</u>

- b) Notice it says let us run—not walk.
 - i) This is a marathon, not a sprint. We need to pace ourselves while running this race. We need to wisely conserve our energy and direct it towards those things that are most important.
- c) How do we run this race which involves laying aside the sin that easily beset us?
 - i) By looking!
 - ii) Looking to who? Jesus—not your doctor, pastor, husband. We need to be looking to the healer, not looking for the healing.
 - iii) We need to look to God for everything we need, and this included healing.
- d) What does it mean to look? This is not talking about getting a picture of Jesus and start looking physically. You can look physically and still not see. This is referring to your inner eyes.
 - i) How do we then look?
 - ii) Practically looking is referring to:
 - Focusing and we focus by engaging our mind.
 - Our attention
 - Thoughts, what we are focused on and thinking about is what we are looking at.
 - iii) What you are constantly focusing on and thinking about is what you are looking at. The point of hearing and looking is not to look, but to engage the mind.
 - It's your mind that causes you to focus based on what you see or hear. True or real seeing and hearing is for the purpose of engaging the mind.
- e) Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith.

- i) Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith. We are not operating in faith if our focus is on something else other than Jesus. We need to keep focusing and looking unto Jesus if we are to win.
- ii) If we get our eyes off Jesus, we will begin to sink (Matthew 14:30).
- f) We endure by fixing our eyes on the Lord and the good and the positive (Philippians 4:8).
 - i) Do not look or focus of what people say could happen or could not happen. Only agree with the Lord.
 - ii) Our endurance is only as strong as our focus.
 - iii) Think of a good report.

Ladies and Gentlemen, there is power in looking. When I looked, I received my wife, my car and everything else. In the same way when we look, we receive all we need but we have to be careful who we look at. In this case, we need to be looking at Jesus. Looking unlocks all we need and want to receive from the Lord.

Look, behold, pay attention to, and focus on Jesus for your healing. Do not look at the doctor or his report.

- B. Numbers 21:6-9 And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died. 7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people. 8 And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live. 9 And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.
 - a) The point I want to bring out in this passage is that the Children of Israel received their healing when they looked at the serpent of brass on the pole.
 - b) The brazen serpent was a picture of Jesus (John 3:14-16) who becomes sin for us (2 Corinthians 5:21) and dying on the cross while the pole is a picture of the cross.

- c) "Jesus quoted from this passage in John 3:14-16 and applied it to Himself. Jesus is like this brazen serpent. He became sin for us (<u>2 Corinthians 5:21</u> and <u>1 Peter 2:24</u>). All we have to do is look unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith (<u>Hebrews 12:2</u>), and we are cured from the bite of sin. (Andrew Wommack's Living Commentary)."
- C. Genesis 15:4-6 And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir. 5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said, <u>Look now toward heaven</u>, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. 6 <u>And he believed</u> in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.
 - a) Abraham Looked. Abraham received one of the greatest promised from the Lord by simply looking. He looked up! He looked north.
 - b) After looking "toward heaven" not toward his problems, he then believed the Lord and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Faith is birthed when we look at the right thing and direction.
- D. Hebrews 11:27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he <u>endured</u>, <u>as seeing</u> him who is invisible.
 - a) We endure by seeing or looking unto Jesus, the author, and finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:1-2). A lack of endurance directly related to our focus. We need to keep on and keep on looking unto Jesus.
- E. Romans 4: 17-21 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. 18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken. So shall thy seed be. 19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.
 - i) (1) Calleth those things that be not as though they were
 - ii) ② Against hope, believed in hope to become or see.

- iii) ③ Not weak in faith—Not considering or looking at a situation as dead. If we consider our situation dead, lifeless and impossible, we become weak in faith. We cannot believe.
 - Consider = look at continuously, think upon, meditate, deliberate etc.

What you consider or look at will = Control, Influence, and Dominate (CID) you.

- iv) ④ Don't consider yourself or the other person's situation dead or impossible.
- v) (5) How do we not stagger (waver) at the promise of God through unbelief? By giving glory to God. We stagger at God's promises through unbelief
- vi) (6) How do we become strong in faith? By giving glory to God and being fully persuaded that what he had promised, he is also able to perform.

Dangers of considering or looking to the natural or the circumstances:

- 1) Weak
- 2) You cannot glorify or magnify God
- 3) Stagger
- 4) Will not be fully persuaded. Of you are focused on the natural, you will not be fully persuaded.

What you are focused on or looking at you will be alive to. Your focus or what you are looking at is very crucial in your healing journey. Alive to God or Alive to something = means to think about, constantly mindful of something, obsessed about it, remember, to focus our attention, set our mind on God. You are dead to what you do not focus on, to what has none of your attention, but you are alive to what you focus on and put your attention on.

 If you are focused on sin or sickness, it will control, dominate, and influence you. It is empowered through focus. Whatever we focus on, we empower—God or sin.

Any attempt we take to overcome sickness or sin in our own will power is a focus on sin.

i) If you focus on sin or sickness, it will Control, Influence, and Dominate (CID) you. Focusing on sin empowers it. Whatever we focus on, we empower—God, sin, or something else. Our focus is what empowers things. Whatever we focus on—God, sin, or anything else, will dominate, Influence, and control us. Whatever we are focus on is what we are "alive" to. It is what we think about, keep our mind on, focus on, remember, or are obsessed about.