



The Law of Beholding

The law of beholding is a powerful law that once we get a grasp of it, it will revolutionize our lives in all areas. Victory in multiple areas hangs on this law. It is that powerful.

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 "Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord *is*, there *is* liberty. **But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.**"

- a) The more you behold, the more you become what you behold.
 - i) As we behold ourselves in God's Word, change occurs as we are transformed into the same image from glory to glory.
- b) We become what we behold. One of the best ways to overcome any struggle is by learning to behold or focus on Jesus.
- c) Our mind is like a magnifying glass. Whatever we focus on becomes bigger and whatever we don't start to shrink in value, importance, significance, and impact.
- d) Whatever we focus on, we become **sensitive to**, and whatever we don't focus on we become hardened to. We can defeat the power of sin by focusing on Jesus rather than the sin.
- e) If we are struggling in a certain area of our lives, we need to go back to what we are beholding. What we become or are becoming is a byproduct of what we are beholding.
- f) This is a powerful principle that will produce victory in our lives continually.
- g) What are you beholding? Whatever you behold you will become.

Two key components to the Law of beholding.

- a) The Word of God
- b) The mind

1. Word of God

- a) James 1:22-25 But be ye **doers of the word**, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. [23] For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: [24] For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. [25] But whoso **looketh into the perfect law of liberty**, and **continueth therein**, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

- i) Looking in a physical mirror gives us a reflection of how we look physically.
- ii) In the same way, when we behold ourselves in the Word of God which is the spiritual mirror, it will reflect how we look in our Spirit and the more we behold ourselves in the Word, we will become more of what we behold in our souls.

2. How do you focus and behold?

Our **MIND** or **what our mind is set on** is what determines our focus and what we are beholding. Beholding means more than physical eyes being glued to something. It could also refer to our inside eyes which is our focus. We can't see what is not in focus.

Whatever is stronger in our lives is what we have been focusing on. If we change our focus, we can defeat any stronghold. This is a spiritual principle that is the reason for victory and defeat.

- a) Isaiah 26:3 "Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose mind is stayed on thee*: because he trusteth in thee.
- i) We keep our minds stayed on the Lord by beholding or focusing on Him, His written Word, and His promises.

- b) Romans 8:5-6 “For they that are after the flesh do **mind** the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.”
- i) If we keep our minds on the things of the flesh—carnal, ungodly things, we will do the things of the flesh. However, if we keep our minds or set our minds on the things of the Spirit (The Word of God, Jesus, things of the Spirit, promises of God, heaven, and eternal things), we will do the things of the Spirit.
 - ii) Our mind is the part of us that thinks and meditates. We can’t experience victory by not renewing our minds through the Word of God (Romans 12:1-2).
- c) Philippians 4:6-8 “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. **And the peace of God**, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things *are* honest, whatsoever things *are* just, whatsoever things *are* pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things *are* of good report; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, **think on these things.**”
- i) Thinking has not been outlawed. At least not yet, bless God. This verse tells us how to think and what to think about.
 - Truth
 - We can’t know the truth without knowing God’s Word. God’s Word is the truth (John 17:17)
 - Honest
 - Just
 - Pure
 - Lovely
 - Good report
 - We need to develop a lifestyle of beholding and thinking about things of a good report, not a bad report. A doctor’s bad report is not something to think about.
 - Virtue

- Praise

- ii) Note that peace, “the peace of God”, follows what we are thinking about (Isaiah 26:3). If we lack peace, we need to look at what we are thinking about. What are we continually beholding? What is continually in our focus?

- d) Hebrews 12:1-2 “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, 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.”

- i) Jesus endured the cross through the law of beholding and focus.

- ii) This verse tells us that “for the joy that was set before Him, He endured the cross. In other words, He focused on Joy and unfocused (despised) on the shame that He encountered.

Some of the benefits to the Law of Beholding:

A. Healing

- a) 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.”

- i) The serpent here on a pole was a picture or a type of Jesus who became sin for us dying on a pole (Cross).

- John 3:14-15 "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life."
- ii) Beholding will get you healed from the sting of sin and its byproduct, sickness. One of the reasons we aren't seeing total healing is because we are not beholding the right thing.
 - iii) Once we take our eyes off the problem and get them to Jesus, through this law of beholding, we will receive the healing and deliverance that comes from this law of beholding and focusing.
- b) Acts 3:1-4 "Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, *being* the ninth *hour*. And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms. And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us."
- i) Look on us
 - God is saying the same thing to all of us. **"Look at me"**
 - Healing will flow from looking at Jesus. **As we behold, we get healed.**
 - ii) Change the focus of what you are looking at. Look at Jesus. Quit looking at your situation.
- c) Isaiah 45:22 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

B. Our actions are a result of our beholding—outer or inner beholding.

- a) John 5:19 "Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise."

- i) See and do. Seeing requires looking and focus. For us to overcome sin and the struggles of the flesh, we need to focus and see Jesus. Set our minds on Jesus. Be a Son-gazer, not a navel-gazer. As long as our minds/focus is on ourselves, we will not overcome the flesh.
 - ii) I do what See My Father do
 - iii) In the same way that we become what we behold, what we hear or are listening to is what we will say.
 - iv) Our actions reflect what we have been beholding.
 - v) If we are struggling with something, one way that will cause deliverance is by **NOT FOCUSING ON IT.**
 - What we don't focus on we get hardened to it.
- b) Romans 8:5-6 "For they that are after the flesh do **mind** the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit."
- i) If we keep our minds of the things of the flesh (carnal, ungodly things, we will do the things of the flesh. However, if we keep our minds or set our minds on the things of the Spirit (Th word of God, Jesus, things of the Spirit, promises of God, heaven, and eternal things), we will do the things of the Spirit.
 - ii) Our mind is the part of us that thinks and meditates. We can't experience victory by not renewing our minds through the Word of God (Romans 12:1-2).
- c) Colossians 3:1-5 "If ye then be risen with Christ, **seek those things which are above**, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. **Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.** For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. **Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth;** fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:
- i) The way we seek these things is by thinking and meditating.

- ii) “Set your affection” is referring to “*exercising the mind*” (Strong’s Concordance). It is speaking of our focus or what we are beholding in our minds.
- iii) If we want to mortify our members, we have to set our focus on things above. We have to set our hearts and affection on heavenly things, not earthly things.
- iv) We will behold become and do what we behold or focus on.

We cannot be tempted with what we are not beholding and focusing on. Temptation is tied to focus (physical or natural) and the law of beholding.

C. What we give birth to

- a) **Genesis 30:31-39** “So he said, “What shall I give you?” And Jacob said, “You shall not give me anything. If you will do this thing for me, I will again feed and keep your flocks: ³²Let me pass through all your flock today, removing from there all the speckled and spotted sheep, and all the brown ones among the lambs, and the spotted and speckled among the goats; and *these* shall be my wages. ³³So my righteousness will answer for me in time to come, when the subject of my wages comes before you: every one that *is* not speckled and spotted among the goats, and brown among the lambs, will be considered stolen, if *it is* with me.” ³⁴And Laban said, “Oh, that it were according to your word!” ³⁵So he removed that day the male goats that were speckled and spotted, all the female goats that were speckled and spotted, every one that had *some* white in it, and all the brown ones among the lambs, and gave *them* into the hand of his sons. ³⁶Then he put three days’ journey between himself and Jacob, and Jacob fed the rest of Laban’s flocks. ³⁷Now Jacob took for himself rods of green poplar and of the almond and chestnut trees, peeled white strips in them, and exposed the white which *was* in the rods. ³⁸And the rods which he had peeled, he set before the flocks in the gutters, in the watering troughs where the flocks came to drink, so that they should conceive when they came to drink. ³⁹So the flocks conceived before the rods, and the flocks brought forth streaked, speckled, and spotted.” (NKJV)

Here is the summary of this part of the story:

- i) Rachel had just given birth to Joseph and Jacob wanted to go to his own country and his own place. He asked for his wages. Laban did not want him to

go as he had experienced success and increase because of Jacob's stewardship.

- Jacob was willing to stay, feed, and keep Laban's flock if he had been given his wages. Nonetheless, he stayed anyway as Laban refused to give him the flock he had wanted. He put in more time to earn the flocks.

ii) According to Jacob's words, he wanted the following for his wages:

- All spotted and speckled sheep
- All the brown lambs
- Spotted and speckled goats

He said, "every one that *is* not speckled and spotted among the goats, and brown among the lambs, will be considered stolen if *it is* with me."

Laban responded, "Oh, that it were according to your word." In other words, he was saying that it was not Jacob to call those shots or to make those rules. It was not according to his rules.

Laban then took all the flock away from Jacob that he had wanted for his wages.

"So he removed that day the male goats that were speckled and spotted, all the female goats that were speckled and spotted, every one that had *some* white in it, and all the brown ones among the lambs, and gave *them* into the hand of his sons."

iii) Jacobs' solution to the problem was based on the **law of beholding**.

³⁷ "Now Jacob took for himself rods of green poplar and of the almond and chestnut trees, peeled white strips in them, and exposed the white which *was* in the rods. ³⁸ And the rods which he had peeled, he set before the flocks in the gutters, in the watering troughs where the flocks came to drink, so that they should conceive when they came to drink. ³⁹ So the flocks conceived before the rods, and the flocks brought forth streaked, speckled, and spotted."

- iv) What we behold is what we conceive. We can't be pregnant with what we aren't focused on. We conceive based on the law of beholding.
- v) What we focus on is what we give birth to. If we don't like what we are giving birth to, we ought to change what we are beholding.

D. Transformation

- a) 1 John 3:2 "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."
- i) We shall be like Him because we shall see Him as He is. If we do not see Him as He is, we can't be like Him.
 - ii) If we see the Lord as He is, we will be like Him. One of the reasons we are not like Him in **our soul** (we are like Him in our spirit) is because we are not looking at Him.
- b) Romans 12:1-2 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."
- i) We become conformed to the things of this world only by focus. We can't conform to what we are not focused on.