

Dear Friend,

As I sought the Lord concerning what to write to you this month, I keep hearing something the Lord said to me many years ago. It is from one of the Face-to-Face documents titled, "The God of Hope." Here is what I keep hearing:

Excerpt from F980908b - Concerning ministry, son, the first lifeline you are to throw to the people is the lifeline of hope. For the enemy rages against all mankind to destroy all hope that there is help for them from their God. You are never wrong to give the people hope. Without hope there is nothing for faith to give substance to.

I am absolutely convinced the devil has assigned an all-out assault on hope in order to destroy the resolve of the people of God. His goal is to stop us from contending for the faith that is the foundation of the church of Jesus Christ. If hope can be deferred for a long period of time, the tendency is to get sick of waiting.

Proverbs 13:12 Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but *when* the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.

The Hebrew word translated "deferred" in that verse simply means "delayed." Very often those delays are caused by the work of our enemy, Satan and his forces, not by God. For example, the angel had been dispatched with the answer the first day Daniel prayed, but it was delayed for twenty-one days because of demonic/angelic warfare in the heavenly realm. God was not holding back the answer. The enemy was. What if Daniel had lost hope and given up?

Another example is when God had spoken to king Cyrus to send the people back to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple of God. No sooner had the work on the temple begun until the enemies of God began to do all in their power to delay its construction. The work was delayed (stopped) for sixteen years! To be truthful, the people had pretty much given up hope that it would ever be built again. God had to cast the lifeline of hope by sending them more prophets to proclaim again His will that they rebuild the temple. With hope once more established in their hearts, their faith arose, and the temple was completed.

If all you see is the news that is reported on the various national news channels and through internet outlets, you would think all hope for revival is lost. There is no escaping the fact that the darkness is getting darker, not only in the United States of America, but throughout the whole world.

One time when I was thinking along these lines, the gentle, always reassuring voice of the Lord came to me. He said, "*I do some of My best work in the dark.*" Immediately my mind remembered the following passages:

Genesis 1:1-3 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. (2) And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. (3) And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

The apostle John told us that "God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all." [1 John 1:5] When all of creation was lying in darkness, all it took was for God to speak, and there was light! Darkness is no problem for our God!

Psalms 112:4 Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

There is no reason to despair. God is with us. He cannot lie. Every promise is true, and every word of God shall come to pass if we continue in the faith and do not give up. Our job is to not allow hope deferred to make us heart-sick and give up.

Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

When Sue and I first began attending the Prayer Center all those years ago, we noticed the framed prophecy that was posted in the foyer. The title of the prophecy was, ENDURANCE IS THE KEY. How true those words have proven to be.

WE SHALL REAP IF WE FAINT NOT!

Let me encourage you this month to read again the Blueprint Prophecies concerning revival. Let them once again paint hope for true revival on the canvas of your heart. Then allow faith to rise up once more within you. Proclaim boldly with your mouth and SPEAK THE END RESULT just as the Holy Spirit has instructed us.

Your fellow servant for Christ,

GARY