



(April 10, 2005)

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it come (are) the issues of life. (Proverbs 4:23)

The Word compares the Kingdom of God to a treasure (Matthew 13:44). It also states that the Kingdom of God is within us (Luke 17:21).

God has been speaking to me about the importance of protecting, in my heart, His dream and vision for my life. I want to share some of my thoughts with you in this study about God's faith, vision, and dream He has put in your heart. **Keeping the dream** alive in our hearts and nurturing it is imperative for it to come to pass in our lives.

The Word tells us, "with all diligence, keep your heart, for out of it are the issues of life." It also says that "as a man thinks in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7). We tend to think that things come from outside and befall us, yet the Word says that it all begins from within the heart. We are called to be prophets of our lives and future.

"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. *With the heart man believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation.*" (Romans 10:9-10)

Your heart is like a chamber where words and images are placed and stored. As God's words, images, and ideas are revealed to us by His Spirit, we receive faith which enables us to act on them and, thereby, make them come to pass in our lives. *This is the way God designed us.*

God's Word, when we hear it, is like a seed that is sown into our hearts. (Romans 10:17 and Matthews 13:3-23) *As it takes root through our confession and actions of faith, it will eventually be seen in the physical world.* For example, 9 months after conception, a baby is born into the physical world and out of the mother's womb. We call this a miracle. It also works in the negative realm, with words that are not from God, as stated in the book of Job, "For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me" (Job 3:25).

Our mind is like a battle ground where our lives and futures are determined. Because the mind accepts or rejects the words that it hears, it is the door to our hearts. God uses dreams and visions to release blessings in and through our lives if we act on them and protect them. Common belief notes that they will come to pass automatically, because God said it. Not so.

Satan uses (imaginations) dreams and visions that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God. We are admonished to refute arguments, theories, and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the true knowledge of God. We are to bring every thought and purpose into captivity and into the obedience of Christ--the Word. (2 Corinthians 10:5 *Amplified Version*)

What is the dream that God has put in your heart? Whatever it may be, it will only come to pass if you work it.

Joseph had dreams from God which he believed and worked by continually confessing them. Then one day they finally came to pass. *He endured strong tribulation and persecution that tried to discourage him from the dream. However, in spite of strong persecution and tribulation, he NEVER abandoned the dreams that the Lord had put in his heart.*

I want to encourage you today to write down the vision (Habakkuk 2:2) that God has put in your heart and begin to believe and thank God that He will help you to bring it to pass.

<u>Dream big for God because God is a big God.</u> If you are not conscious of God's dream or vision for your life beyond what is clearly stated in the Bible, you should ask God for it, and <u>He will reveal it to you.</u> Quite often, pieces of the dream will be revealed at different times as you act on what He shows you.

Words to study: Proverbs 4:23, Matthew 13:44, Luke 17:21, Proverbs 23:7 Romans 10:9-10, Romans 10:17, Matthew 13:3-23, Job 3:25, 2 Corinthians 10:5, Habakkuk 2:2