

How God Changes Our Circumstances

It was like being on the back side of the desert. I wondered if I looked around would I see Moses and his flock of sheep. Everywhere I looked, there was nothing but barren, unfruitful ground. Oh, there were a few scraggly things growing but not much to mention. Why wasn't the fruit being produced in our lives? I believed we were good ground, but God had said that good ground would produce fruit and I didn't see the fruit. There must be something wrong. Then a voice said, "Just keep doing like you're doing and one day you will see the fruit." But that "one day" never came.

Yes, we were in the midst of conducting spiritual inventory and examination for the fruit that should have been evident in our lives. How many times did we say, "Where is the fruit that should be in manifestation?" Our hearts cried out for **GOD TO CHANGE OUR CIRCUMSTANCES!**

We gave heed to "the voice" and continued doing as before. Days turned into weeks, weeks into months, and months into years. Finally we noticed that we were compassing the same mountain again and again and again! All the circumstances were still the same, nothing had changed. This year was going just like last year, and last year was like the year before; a continuous cycle of no fruit being produced. There was not much growth in the things of God. We had grown weary.

What are some of the signs of an unfruitful life? Let me list a few: prayers not being answered, plagued with the same old circumstances, no strength to stand against the wiles of Satan, signs and wonders not following, thinking you heard God speak to you and then finding yourself at the end of "Defeat and Failure" Street.

By now I believe you can clearly see the picture that I have painted. We have all been there. You may be there right now. If you are, I have **GOOD NEWS** – God wants to bring about change that will produce good fruit in your life. But we must remember; ***FOR GOD TO CHANGE OUR CIRCUMSTANCES HE MUST FIRST CHANGE OUR CHARACTER.*** If you are not producing fruit that glorifies God, then **YOU** are what needs to be changed! Then you will be able to move the mountain that you keep circling.

What must we do to see God's change brought forth in our lives? I believe the first step is **REFUSING TO ACCEPT THINGS THE WAY THEY ARE!** That is, and has always been, the key for breakthrough; whether in the life of an individual, family, church, city, or nation. Do not settle for **good** which is the enemy of **best!**

God has so much He wants us to walk in, but it only comes about as the Holy Spirit works change in us. We must realize that our number one priority is to pursue God more than life itself. The desire to pursue God will only grow within us as we invest (not spend) much time in prayer and in the Word of God. When we invest time and effort into the things of God we do receive something in return.

Recently I was reminded of a prophecy given by Smith Wigglesworth which said *the last move of God would be a combination of the Word and the Spirit.* When we have the Word only, we have formalism. When we have the Spirit only, we have fanaticism. We must have both because they agree together and produce the power of God in manifestation.

I encourage you to get into the Word and prayer like never before. There are some trying times ahead and only those that do know their God shall be strong and be able to stand in the evil day and do great exploits (Daniel 11:32). When you diligently seek Him, He has promised that He will reward you. Our heart's desire is to help you to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor Jerry