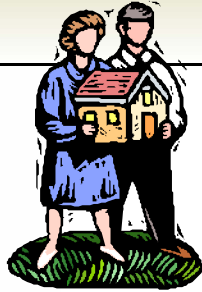


“Visions Of Our Forefathers”

By Mrs. Sojourner



Our Heavenly Father, over and over in the Old Testament tells the people of Israel to relay testimonies and laws to their “children and their children’s children.” God knew that by doing this His glory and his ways would be part of the culture.

Look at Nehemiah. He is living in exile working in the reigning (non-Jewish) king’s court. He receives disturbing news about the wall of Jerusalem:

Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem. They said to me, “Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.” When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. ^{Nehemiah 1:2-4 (NIV)}

Nehemiah, despite his location, was a devout servant of the Most High God. He knew God’s laws and his ways, and he also knew how close Jeru-

salem is to the heart of God. Nehemiah grieved ^(v 4) over Jerusalem.

Someone in our American society today, may say to Nehemiah, “Who cares about those city walls—you live here and have a good position working for the king here, the home place is of no concern to you.” But Nehemiah knew the visions and heart’s desires of his fathers and his father’s fathers and from the God of his fathers. During Nehemiah’s mourning over the sad news and seeking God’s face, God gave him the heart and vision to rebuild the walls and gates of Jerusalem. Nehemiah loved the God of his fathers and God gave him the vision and the means to fulfill that vision. Go do the same.

Notes:

[a]

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The Sojourner
Sojourner's Fellowships
P.O. Box 955
Manchester, TN 37349

Phone Toll Free: 800-391-6944 (USA)
Skype World Wide VOIP:

thesojourner3734

Email: thesojourner@sojournershub.org



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...with The Sojourner

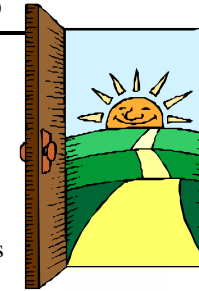
“Fulfillment”

(Teaching Sketch)

Habakkuk 2 various verses (NIV)



The only fulfillment, true fulfillment, is in Jesus the Christ and the vision or revelation that comes from building The Kingdom of Heaven. This activity, on earth as in heaven fulfills the purpose of God!



Notes:
[a]

Write It Down

God tells us when we have a vision to write it down and tell it.

² Then the LORD replied:

“Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. (Habakkuk 2:2 NIV)

The vision about which I am speaking is not an idea of our own, or man’s idea, but a revelation of God’s desire to see a matter come to fruition that builds “The Kingdom of Heaven!”

Our Ideas

Our ideas are for the fire! We make our great plans to elevate ourselves financially, politically, or spiritually but they will all come to a vapor. That is what is said in Habakkuk 2.

¹³ Has not the LORD Almighty determined that the people’s labor is only fuel for the fire, that the nations exhaust themselves for nothing? (Habakkuk 2:13 NIV)

We often have ideas that God’s plan will be carried out when we have secured our own futures. This is foolishness. Building a life in this manor is to steal from God.

⁹ “Woe to him who builds his realm by unjust gain to set his nest on high, to escape the clutches of ruin!

Unjust can be gaining by a means other than that which

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Please note: This is a teaching sketch only and not the complete teaching.

“Fulfillment”

(Teaching Sketch)

Habakkuk 2 various verses (NIV)

Scripture:

Habakkuk 2^(NIV)

Habakkuk 2: 2-3

The LORD's Answer

² Then the LORD replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald ^[a] may run with it. ³ For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it ^[b] will certainly come and will not delay.

Habakkuk 2: 9-14

⁹ "Woe to him who builds his realm by unjust gain to set his nest on high, to escape the clutches of ruin! ¹⁰ You have plotted the ruin of many peoples, shaming your own house and forfeiting your life. ¹¹ The stones of the wall will cry out, and the beams of the woodwork will echo it. ¹² "Woe to him who builds a city with bloodshed and establishes a town by crime! ¹³ Has not the LORD Almighty determined that the people's labor is only fuel for the fire, that the nations exhaust themselves for nothing? ¹⁴ For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the

Notes:

[a] Habakkuk 2:2 Or *so that whoever reads it*

[b] Habakkuk 2:3 Or *Though he lingers, wait for him; / he*

LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Habakkuk 2: 18-20

¹⁸ "Of what value is an idol, since a man has carved it? Or an image that teaches lies? For he who makes it trusts in his own creation; he makes idols that cannot speak. ¹⁹ Woe to him who says to wood, 'Come to life!' Or to lifeless stone, 'Wake up!' Can it give guidance? It is covered with gold and silver; there is no breath in it. ²⁰ But the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him."

I am a Believer, it's who I am and what I do!

Continued from page one.

the Lord had intended or even with holding the tithe, first fruits, thank offerings, and the rewards of our labor that belong to God. It is very important we learn and practice this understanding as a part of our relationship to our Lord.

“Fulfillment”

(Teaching Sketch)

Habakkuk 2 various verses (NIV)

Continued from page two.

An Idol

This may seem obvious to you but an idol is something we make. That means if we are building a kingdom of our own, we are idolaters.

¹⁸ "Of what value is an idol, since a man has carved it? Or an image that teaches lies? For he who makes it trusts in his own creation; he makes idols that cannot speak. (Habakkuk 2:13 NIV)

If anyone trusts in the work of his own hands for safety and peace they have believed the lies of demons!

Be Silent and Listen

Silence is a very foreign thing to people who have been blessed with all the blessings of an affluent country and are accustomed to listening only to themselves. There is a time to be silent. It is silence, however, on our part that permits us to listen to and trust in God and the salvation offered in Jesus the Christ. Listen for God!

Just so you'll know:

Our service is informal. We look to the Holy Spirit of God to guide us corporately and individually.

Our service usually follows this general pattern:

- **Informal fellowship & sharing** of what we have seen the Lord do in, through, and around us since we last met.
 - Testimonies are a part of the conversation.
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Praise, Worship, & Offerings:** (*Offerings to be placed in basket during Praise & Worship*)
Words of Prophecy or Knowledge if they have been given during "Praise & Worship." (other times as the Spirit moves)
- **The Pastoral Message**
- **Prayer Requests**
 - Ministry to those present & intercession.
- **The Blessing**

"The Sojourner Live"
Sunday, December 7th
10:00 PM (CST)

Broadcasting a message of The Kingdom Of Blessing.

