

Winning Against the Cares of This World

We are continuing to learn about the law of conception or how God intended for us to develop faith.

We always have to begin with what Jesus accomplished for us.

John 17:20-23 20 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

Jesus is referring to your born again experience. According to Jesus, when you were born again, your spirit became one with God in Christ and he calls you perfect which means complete, lacking nothing. The rest of the Christian life is about renewing your mind to believe and walk out what you already have.

The law of conception.

1) God gave us his word that always produces after its own kind.

Luke 1:37 AMPC For with God nothing is ever impossible and no word from God shall be without power or impossible of fulfillment.

2) He gave us a place (our heart) for the seed to be conceived.

Proverbs 4:23 NIV Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

3) God gave us a way to reap the harvest.

Romans 10:10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

This week we will learn about the third type of soil or the third heart condition that effects our ability to receive what Jesus has already provided.

Matthew 13:22 22 Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

Jesus teaches us two things that effect our harvest.

1) The deceitfulness of riches.

The first thing that we need to understand is that God doesn't have a problem with money, he created it for us, yet in many Christian circles they link poverty to piety, that truly spiritual

people take a vow of poverty and forsake all of the things of this old world. What they forget is that the very things we are forsaking are the very things he created for our enjoyment.

Let's let scripture speak for itself.

Deuteronomy 8:11-14 "But that is the time to be careful! Beware that in your plenty you do not forget the Lord your God and disobey his commands, regulations, and decrees that I am giving you today. 12 For when you have become full and prosperous and have built fine homes to live in, 13 and when your flocks and herds have become very large and your silver and gold have multiplied along with everything else, be careful! 14 Do not become proud at that time and forget the Lord your God, who rescued you from slavery in the land of Egypt.

God never says he wants us poor, he simply wants us to remember who our source is.

God calls himself El Shaddai not El Cheapo, El Shaddai means the God of more than enough or abundance.

Wealth brings influence and while much of the church is forsaking the riches of this world, unbelievers are gathering it up and using their money and influence to destroy God's kingdom purposes.

2) The cares of this world.

Jesus refers to the cares of this world as weeds. So let's go back to the origin of weeds.

Genesis 3:17-18 17 Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life. 18 Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field.

Weeds are part of the curse that came through sin, every aspect of the curse was intended to destroy God's design for man.

In the natural the biggest threat to a fruitful garden is weeds or thorns. Weeds compete for nutrients in the soil and sunlight, which can lead to stunted growth for your vegetables, flowers and lawn. On a similar note, weeds also take up space, which can make it harder for gardens to flourish.

Now let's apply this to our spiritual lives.

Jesus tells us how to be fruitful.

"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

God is the tree of life, the vine that produces every redemptive promise and he says that the key is to abide or live in communion with him.

Satan will do anything to keep you living in a place of lack so he introduces spiritual weeds to affect our harvest.

Jesus is saying that the thorns in our spiritual lives are the cares of this world.

The Greek word for care means to divide or distract the mind, to be drawn in different directions.

Jesus is saying that being torn between two opinions will affect your harvest.

Mark 11:23 NKJV For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

This word doubt come from the Latin word duo, it means to waver between two opinions.

Romans 4:20 NLT Abraham never wavered in believing God's promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God.

The word waver means to fluctuate, to be unsettled in opinion, to vacillate.

Satan's plan to create doubt.

1) He has created a gospel that teaches that we are forgiven of sin, yet destined to live with the effects of sin until we get to heaven.

Our whole lives we have been trained to believe that all of the effects of the fall are normal and to be expected.

Through the disobedience of Adam, mankind was separated from God the source of life.

So life became death, light became dark, intimacy became detachment, health became sickness, strength became weakness, victory became defeat, wisdom became deception, provision became lack, emotional well-being became brokenness, love became self-centeredness, joy became sorrow, goodness became evil, patience became impatience, gentleness became harshness, faithfulness became disloyalty, self-control became indulgence, innocence became guilt, approval became condemnation and honor became shame.

All of these destructive forces are the effects of sin.

Every-time you accept these lies as normal they become the weed that is taking up valuable space and nutrients in your heart and they cause you to be double minded which keeps you from experiencing what you already have on the inside of you in fullness.

Colossians 2:14-15 TPT He canceled out every legal violation we had on our record and the old arrest warrant that stood to indict us. He erased it all—our sins, our stained soul—he deleted it all and they cannot be retrieved! **Everything we once were in Adam has been placed onto his cross and nailed permanently there as a public display of cancellation.**

God took everything that was lost through the fall and placed it on Jesus and exchanged it for everything that he created for us

God put death on Jesus and exchanged it for life.

- Darkness for light
- Sickness for health
- Lack for provision
- Division for intimacy
- Deception for wisdom
- Stress for emotional well being
- Condemnation for approval
- Guilt for innocence
- Evil for goodness

All Satan has to do to keep us from receiving what Jesus already paid for is to get us to think that God is the source of good and evil then you won't know what comes from him or Satan.

James 1:5-8 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

The Bible is very clear that doubt will keep you from receiving God's promises.

Cast down the weeds.

2 Corinthians 10:4-6 For the weapons of our warfare are not [a]carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, 6 and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

Isaiah 54:17 NKJV No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And their righteousness is from Me, Says the Lord.