



# Independence Church Of Christ

*Sharing The Freedom That Is In Christ*

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Lesson For August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## Vision Is Integral To Faith

### Vision Enables us to SEE the Invisible:

*"... we look not at the things which are seen, but (we look at) at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."*

(2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:18]

Notice that we are instructed in the Word of God to look at those things which CANNOT be seen! How does one do that? Answer: *Vision*.

Naturally, we understand that when the God speaks to us of *vision*, He is not talking about 'natural' things, such as the trees, the grass, the clouds, etc. - but rather He speaks of SPIRITUAL things. By spiritual things I mean things that occur, or have occurred in the spirit realm such as:

- 1) We are 'new creations' in Christ (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:17)
- 2) Christ took our sickness and carried our pain on the cross (Isaiah 53:4-5)
- 3) God Has supplied ALL our Needs thru His riches in Glory (Philippians 4:19)

### Vision is the Means Whereby:

- 1) We can see that which is *not* visible
- 2) We can see what *we* desire for ourselves in our walk with God
- 3) We can see what *God* desires for us
- 4) We can see *who* we are in Christ and what we *HAVE* in Him.

## How Do We See These Things?

By what means does God provide Christians a look into the spirit and the ability to *SEE* the things that He has told us to look at? Most Christians do not realize that God has provided *TWO* ways in which this can be done.

### **1) The Word of God:**

*"...the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." (Jesus in John 6:63)*

*"Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who SEES his face in a MIRROR and, after SEEING himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it — he will be blessed in what he does." (James 1:23-25)*

### **John 6:63 says that the Word of God is *Spirit*.**

By looking in the word of God we can literally *SEE* into the Spirit and see ourselves as God sees us. We can see WHO we are, what we have, and what Christ accomplished for us. And, providing we don't FORGET what we *SEE* in the Word when we put it down, but rather continue in it, we will be blessed in whatever we do!

### **2) The Gift of the Holy Spirit:**

*"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will show you what is yet to come." (John 16:13).* In other words, the Spirit of God enables us to *SEE* into the future! This promise is for every Christian!

***"Where there is no vision, the people perish."*** (Proverbs 29:18)

## We Must See It For Ourselves:

Most Christians do not understand the importance of *SEEING* ourselves as God see us! The reason for this is because the way we *SEE* ourselves is the way we *THINK* about ourselves - and the Lord has said in His Word: *"...For as a man thinks in his heart - so he is!"* (Proverbs 23:7)

If we *THINK* about ourselves in a way other than what God has *SAID* about us - then we will not see the blessing manifested. We will instead see what we *think!* This is one reason why so many of God's children are sick, defeated, beaten down, failing, broke, in debt, unsuccessful, confused, oppressed and depressed.

We are told NOT to look at what is "*seen*" - but rather to keep our eyes on what is NOT seen (to Have Vision). Yet, everyday Christians are looking at the *circumstances* and allowing what they see to determine who they are and what they have, instead of believing what God has SAID in His Word.

We MUST take our eyes off the present situation and, using our VISION, look at the circumstances with an eye towards what is NOT seen. We must see ourselves: Healed and Healthy, Strong and Free, Blessed, Delivered and Redeemed!

*"... we look not at the things which are seen, but (we look at) at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."*  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:18)

### **USE YOUR VISION:**

We MUST use our *spiritual* eyes to look into the spirit realm and see ourselves as God sees us - and then accept His Word as truth - believe it - receive it by faith - and then begin to SPEAK it as instructed:

#### **How Does God See us:**

- God sees us Righteous: In right-standing with God : (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:21)
- God sees us Healed and Healthy: (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:24 • Matthew 8:17 • Psalm 91:7-10 • Isaiah 53:1-5)
- God sees us Delivered from every situation, affliction, oppression, depression and attack of the enemy: (Colossians 1: 12-14)
- God sees us as Successful: well supplied, prosperous, well able to contribute to every good work: (Deuteronomy 28 • Proverbs 10:22 • 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 9:8)
- God sees us in a Position of Authority: More than a conqueror / Triumphant and Victorious (Deuteronomy 28 1-14 • Romans 8:37 • 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 2:14 • 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:57 • 1<sup>st</sup> John 5:4)

**Remember: As a Man Thinks In His Heart: So He Is: [Proverbs 23:7]**

While it is true that without a vision the people perish, it is doubly true that without action the people and their vision perish as well.