

95 – Will you trust God and can God trust you...no matter what?

God is very efficient...He is NEVER working on only one person at a time.
Write that down. Look at it. Ponder it, but above all, remember it:
God is VERY efficient. He is NEVER working on only ONE person at a time.

If you've been following along even for the past two weeks, you've been in the midst of experiencing significant changes in your life, or at least witnessing them in the lives of those you know, love and serve.

The fact is that today is the 12 week mark since we stood on the west bank of the Jordan River together, so to speak.

- On December 6, we reviewed what God did on the birthday of Jesus Christ, Yeshua, Ha Mashiach. We didn't know it at the time, but we were recounting the signs and wonders of God, much like the Israelites did before they stepped into a river that God held back and dried the ground under it for them to cross over into the Promised Land.
- On December 13, we took a fresh look at the Sovereignty of God. Again, we didn't know it then, but we were establishing the principles we must live by to thrive in the land we were about to enter. Barbara's book is entitled, **God is God and We Are Not**, and I can think of no more succinct an explanation of God's sovereignty than that! Isaiah's scroll contains 14 declarations, "I am the Lord." Look with me at them now, and let's celebrate the Lord, our God together. Let's give Him praise, and honor, and worship. Let's declare with all our hearts, minds and strength the goodness and power of our Father, Whom Israel knew, with Whom Abraham walked and talked with, Whom David loved, and in Whom Jesus Christ put His faith when His life ended, declaring, "It is Accomplished."

Here is what The Lord declared through Isaiah:

1. **Isaiah 41:13**
For **I am the LORD** your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.
Isaiah 41:12-14 (in Context) Isaiah 41 (Whole Chapter)
2. **Isaiah 42:8**
"**I am the LORD**; that is my name! I will not yield my glory to another or my praise to idols.
Isaiah 42:7-9 (in Context) Isaiah 42 (Whole Chapter)
3. **Isaiah 43:3**
For **I am the LORD** your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead.
Isaiah 43:2-4 (in Context) Isaiah 43 (Whole Chapter)

4. **Isaiah 43:11**
I, even I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior.
[Isaiah 43:10-12](#) (in Context) [Isaiah 43](#) (Whole Chapter)
5. **Isaiah 43:15**
I am the LORD, your Holy One, Israel's Creator, your King."
[Isaiah 43:14-16](#) (in Context) [Isaiah 43](#) (Whole Chapter)
6. **Isaiah 44:24**
[*Jerusalem to Be Inhabited*] "This is what the LORD says— your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb: **I am the LORD**, the Maker of all things, who stretches out the heavens, who spreads out the earth by myself,
[Isaiah 44:23-25](#) (in Context) [Isaiah 44](#) (Whole Chapter)
7. **Isaiah 45:3**
I will give you hidden treasures, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that **I am the LORD**, the God of Israel, who summons you by name.
[Isaiah 45:2-4](#) (in Context) [Isaiah 45](#) (Whole Chapter)
8. **Isaiah 45:5**
I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me,
[Isaiah 45:4-6](#) (in Context) [Isaiah 45](#) (Whole Chapter)
9. **Isaiah 45:6**
so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting people may know there is none besides me. **I am the LORD**, and there is no other.
[Isaiah 45:5-7](#) (in Context) [Isaiah 45](#) (Whole Chapter)
10. **Isaiah 45:18**
For this is what the LORD says— he who created the heavens, he is God; he who fashioned and made the earth, he founded it; he did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited— he says: "**I am the LORD**, and there is no other.
[Isaiah 45:17-19](#) (in Context) [Isaiah 45](#) (Whole Chapter)
11. **Isaiah 48:17**
This is what the LORD says— your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "**I am the LORD** your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go.
[Isaiah 48:16-18](#) (in Context) [Isaiah 48](#) (Whole Chapter)
12. **Isaiah 49:23**
Kings will be your foster fathers, and their queens your nursing mothers. They will bow down before you with their faces to the ground; they will lick the dust at your feet. Then you will know that **I am the LORD**; those who hope in me will not be disappointed."
[Isaiah 49:22-24](#) (in Context) [Isaiah 49](#) (Whole Chapter)
13. **Isaiah 51:15**
For **I am the LORD** your God, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar— the LORD Almighty is his name.
[Isaiah 51:14-16](#) (in Context) [Isaiah 51](#) (Whole Chapter)
14. **Isaiah 60:22**
The least of you will become a thousand, the smallest a mighty nation. **I am the LORD**; in its time I will do this swiftly."

Finally, look at what Paul declared at the end of **Romans 8:35-39**

What shall be separating us from the love of God in Christ Jesus? Affliction, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

36 According as it is written that "On Thy account we are being put to death the

whole day, We are reckoned as sheep for slaughter."

37 Nay! in all these we are more than conquering through Him Who loves us.

38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor messengers, nor sovereignties, nor the present, nor what is impending, nor powers,

39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

- On December 20, we examined How to know whether we're at cross purposes or in lock-step with God. How important that turned out to be, and will always be until the Lord returns, for us to walk steadily and stay upright in a land that yet must be taken! We CAN walk without stumbling, without injury, and even without illness I believe, IF we'll simply hear God and heed His word – His direction – no matter what, and leaving aside any opinion we might have, such as, "Well, I'd never do that, or God would never ask me to do this. My book says, in

Romans 11:33-36:

O, the depth of the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! How inscrutable are His judgments, and untraceable His ways!

34 For, who knew the mind of the Lord? or, who became His adviser?

35 or, who gives to Him first, and it will be repaid him?

36 seeing that out of Him and through Him and for Him is all: to Him be the glory for the eons! Amen!

- On December 27, we celebrated the victories in our lives over the past months as we prepared to leave the land of our wandering and enter into the land of promise. When you read the Old Testament, we find many times when the children of Israel gathered together in praise and celebration of the goodness of God to them personally and nationally. David wrote psalm after psalm praising and giving thanks to God. He KNEW the joy of the Lord that is our strength! He declared the joy of the Lord – even in the midst of the rough spots – ESPECIALLY in the midst of his rough spots!
- On January 3, we looked at the declaration that was given on December 31, 2011. Let me read from my study notes on January 3rd:

I want to read to you the most recent posting on ScriptureDoc.com, put up on December 31, 2011, following at least three conversations that day, during which it felt like a trumpet was sounding and the Body of Christ was being called into formation to cross over a line God had drawn between the old year and the new...and, I believe, between everything old – stuff we may have been hanging on to – some we probably knew about and some we didn't -- and everything new that He has already prepared for us but

which we couldn't enter into in an unclean state, just like the Jews couldn't take part in the feasts if they were "ceremonially unclean."

The "*Verse of the Day*" from Bible Gateway started the day with

Isaiah 43:16-21 (NIV):

¹⁶ This is what the LORD says —

He Who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters,

¹⁷ Who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together,

and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:

¹⁸ "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

²⁰ The wild animals honor Me, the jackals and the owls,

because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland,

to give drink to My people, My chosen, ²¹ the people I formed for Myself that they may proclaim My praise.

I finished the blog post with this:

Come midnight tonight, cross the river with God and take nothing from the "old land" with you, because He is "doing a new thing," and it's up to us to "perceive it." We must step into His "way in the wilderness" and drink from His "streams in the wasteland."

What I didn't write is that these are HIS ways and HIS streams – not ours – and He's made them FOR us...if we think we're going to make the way or the stream, I believe we will meet with utter futility and emptiness. We are living in the administration of God's grace and not law, but as we'll see, God is faithful to Himself and His purpose FIRST...and it's up to us to come into line with it in EVERY aspect of our lives...and today is the day.

- On January 8, Jammie Church was born. We met with a small group, via live teleconference, with Barbara as pastor.
- On January 10, we **announced** the official opening of Jammie Church. We've met each week since, at 10:00am on Sundays, and the phrase, "come as you are," has taken on a whole new meaning. There are no time constraints, no hierarchy, except as God determines, and no order of worship, except as the Holy Spirit is free to flow. Now the vision has grown into a ministry far beyond OUR living rooms. We're receiving comments from people around the world who

have found the site and whose hearts have longed to climb into the Father's lap and to meet with Jesus, right where they are, unhindered and unhampered by religion and ceremony.

- Also on January 10, we examined the militancy that is required of us now, not to take the land into which we crossed on January 1, 2012 and announced on January 3rd. Barbara went into what the Lord showed her in the book of Ezra, as a pattern for that militancy to make holy and to keep holy what God has established and to let the old die – people, places, relationships -- on the eastern shore. Nothing defiled could go forward. We couldn't drag anything or anyone along behind us. They'd have to make it on their own...or not. It was a time of preparation for what would be required to take the land we'd entered into, and God was cutting deep to get the cancers out, so that the body would live and thrive.
- On January 17, we were 6 weeks into this 12-week journey, and we talked about what it means and what it takes to be aware of, to perceive correctly, and to focus on, what God is doing, right before our eyes, and, if possible, behind the scenes. One of the big take-aways from that study was the word from

Psalm 46:10:

“Relax, and know that I am Elohim [I am God].”

- On January 24, we lifted up the spirit of God as the true Geiger counter for how to know what we're dealing with at any time. I read a prophetic word from late 2009 that I believe applies to us today, that spoke about the spirit, the sword of the spirit and a call to battle with others whom the Lord will call to fight along side us. Among other scriptures we looked at, this one stood out as I prepared for us tonight:

1 Corinthians 2:14:

those things which are of the spirit of God...are spiritually examined.

The only way anyone comprehends the ways of God, the things of God, even the word of God – I mean REALLY comprehend it – is by the spirit; and if we ever find ourselves slogging through the swamp of doubt, condemnation, resistance, self-pity; self-absorbed, self-centered preoccupation, we have mis-taken God. We have misunderstood and grossly underestimated, or even failed to take into account, His sovereignty.

Our lives better be about something other than what we get out of them. Our lives better be God's, to do with *whatever* He sees fit – we'd better fall out of agreement with any purposes *WE* have, and come into agreement with God's purposes. When our lives are about Him and not about us; when our lives aren't even ours, but His, THEN, and ONLY then, will we find real peace, real fulfillment, true satisfaction.

When Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me,” call me crazy, but I believe He was serious!

- On January 31, we Learned how to read God’s fingerprints, to look for His landmarks, and to follow His footsteps. One of the things we went into was a realization or reminder I had gotten while I was out earlier in the day:

I could hear the Father’s eagerness, His earnest desire for His sons and daughters to know Him, to see Him, to hear Him in every detail of their lives – and to recognize Him, to greet Him, to Give Him honor and worship and praise, for He is the Lord and there is no other, and He has carefully crafted – lovingly woven – every stitch in the fabric of your life. The Father longs for you to know the vastness of His love. We cannot AFFORD to lose sight and sound of Him. We MUST hear and heed Him. We must, because in this new land, we have spiritual authority to conquer the giants, but we dare not treat it – or Him – **casually**. I hear the clock ticking. I know that Paul and the other apostles fully expected the Lord to return during their lifetimes, and I’ve heard someone say “time is short” since 1972 for 40 years. it is a new season; one which calls to mind all the lessons learned, and which points to the return of the Lord of Glory. Jesus said, “watch and wait with me.” Paul said, be alert and don’t be taken by surprise. How will we do that? By learning to look for and pay attention to God’s fingerprints – His landmarks – that mark His presence and His leading.

We also looked at Ephesians 1 with fresh eyes and clearer understanding as the Holy Spirit revealed, among other things, what it means to have been

- “designated beforehand for the p[lace of a son or daughter” . . .
- what it means to be sealed with the holy spirit of the promise,
- the difference between being FREED from sin, and not just saved from it.

And we saw that God is faithful, as He told Barbara many years ago:

“I’m showing you what you need to see, so when I do what I do, you’ll know why I did what I did.”

- On February 7, we learned how to tell for ourselves what God is really saying through the scriptures. We went through some basic principles that anyone can apply to make sense of the word of God! This was a basic training class, really, so that if we get separated from one another for any reason, anyone of us can pick up the scriptures, learn what the Lord is saying in them, and even teach others so that the body of Christ is never dependent on a single member, but that ALL members are equally capable and are mutually supporting of one another.
- Finally, last week, February 14, we learned how to become UNSHAKABLE and own what’s true about us, according to the word of God, and never again depend on someone else for our sense of worth, place, or purpose. We investigated the

spirit's law of THE Life in Romans 8 and learned how to distinguish it from the law of The Sin and The Death that is found OUTSIDE the life of the Holy Spirit in us. Finally, we examined what to me has been one of the most astonishing discoveries in all of the 94 studies un to that time: that the Father condemned the Sin in his own Son's flesh – Whom He made to be a sin offering, One Who knew no sin, exactly like a lamb led to the slaughter, and spilled His blood on the ground for the sake of our sin – indeed for the sake of THE sin from Adam on. Our flesh was represented in Yeshua's flesh. That is how he died FOR us – literally, in our place.

That brings us to today, where, in this new land and in this new season, we would love, I suspect, to find an olive tree to sit under; a hammock, an inner tube in a pool. Barbara and I don't know anyone who is not undergoing – right now – some of the toughest tests of their lives, and here's what the Lord was so faithful to show, as I recounted where we've been in these past 12 weeks:

This that each of us is processing through right now IS the ACTUAL taking of the land God has given us. We ARE – you ARE – conquering strongholds so that you CAN live in peace and have rest on all sides. For now, we stand for the word of God, for His sovereignty, for His purpose, for Jesus Christ's faith and for Christ's sake, we stand. Whatever you are battling right now – or whomever – remember this:

1. You aren't wrestling with blood and flesh, "but with the sovereignties, with the authorities, with the world-mights of this darkness, with the spiritual forces of wickedness among the celestials," Paul says in **Ephesians 6:12**. Look at the numbers of that scripture; Eph. 6:12, on the 12th week of this process we reviewed tonight. And, FYI, this is the 7th week anniversary of announcing the crossing over into this new land...this new season. That means tomorrow begins the 8th week – the number of new beginnings.

Just today, I had to write an email to someone toward whom God required me to be silent for five days. What was the purpose for that? To take him through his stuff and me through mine; also, to take anyone connected with either or both of us through their stuff. As a result, Barbara and I have seen God put His sovereign finger on areas of the lives of brothers and sisters in Christ with whom we walk...areas that have lain dormant until now, like sleeping Anakites in the land God has given us to take. And take it we shall and they shall; because of the second thing to remember, no matter what you're wrestling today:

2. Ephesians 1: 11

in Him in Whom our lot was cast also, being designated beforehand according to the purpose of the One Who is operating all in accord with the counsel of His will,

12 that we should be for the laud of His glory, who are pre-expectant in the Christ.

Our lots were already cast in Christ Jesus, and it is the Father who has designated you and me. In **verse 5**, Paul declares that His designation is for the place of a son (or daughter) THROUGH Christ Jesus, AND this all is in agreement with the Delight of His will – God just wants to do this...more than that, He DELIGHTS to do this in you, for you.

Go back to verse 11&12 now:

It is the Father Who IS operating THE all – present tense...The Father IS OPERATING absolutely everything Right the heck NOW, in accord with – in agreement with, according to The counsel – the mutual advice – of HIS will.

Do you see That the One Who is has designated you for the place of a son or daughter – because it delights Him to do so -- is the same One Who is also operating the All according to His own counsel?

Let me ask you: Who is more trustworthy than the Father of us all? Who's counsel would you rather be the beneficiary of? Who would you rather have operating the all; and Whose purpose would you rather the operations serve?

Keep going with me here: If the Operator is the Father, and the Son, Yeshua Ha Mashiach, is the agent through Whom you were designated and because of Whom The Father is operating the all according to His purpose – the One you have to know by now is sovereign – He IS the Lord and THERE IS NHO OTHER – do you suppose for a nanosecond that this enterprise could fail or even fall short or be delayed by anyone or anything at any time?

How many times does Barbara say in her book, “God never said it'd be easy; He said He'd be with us!” God never told the Israelites that taking the Promised Land would be a cake walk. He even told them that they weren't going to conquer everyone all at once because they'd never be able to populate sufficiently to work the land without being overrun by the wild beasts. God wasn't concerned about the Anakites, the Philistines, or anyone else who lived in the land. He had them covered. All Israel had to do was go where He told them, when He told them, and DO what He told them.

If things aren't working EXACTLY the way you foresaw them or even the way God showed you – listen to that, now: even if things aren't working out exactly the way you

perceive that God showed you – don't think He isn't with you, isn't trustworthy or worse, is playing some "I'm God and you're Not" game with you.

I spoke to someone early this afternoon who is in precisely this situation right now. They had a word from the Lord – a clear word with a clear date and a specific time for an event to occur; an event that would completely alter the course of this person's life in a direction they've been hoping for, for about three years. The time came and went and the event did not happen. Nothing changed...or has it? When this person said to me today, "I'm just very confused right now. I know what I heard and I know it was from God, but I don't what's going on." All I could say then was, I can help, when it's time. I know what this is...I've been there, so hang tight. They said, "Well, can you give me something right now?" I said, "Yeah, Trust God. Trust the one you think didn't show up today like you thought. He wants you to trust Him, and, just as important He wants to know He can trust you to stand for Him and with Him, no matter what that looks like. This is no game; therefore it MUST be purpose! Nothing is out of order, nothing is off schedule, and there is no problem here. Can God help Himself to your life, or will you tie His hands and demand that He perform for you because you, quote, 'got a word?' You be with the Lord right now and praise Him as much now as you did before you went to sleep last night and all the nights before."

14 places in Isaiah where the Lord declares that He IS the LORD. THERE IS NO OTHER! HE IS the One Who IS operating THE all in accord with the counsel of HIS will, not ours. Whose purpose is this that's being worked out? Ours or His? Can God help Himself to our lives, to operate THE all according to the counsel of His will, in and through our lives, and the lives of those in and out of our worlds, or do we have a better plan we think? If He gives you a word today, can He do what serves His purpose best – can this be about His purpose for real, meaning, can you trust Him – not to carry out what you've heard in the way you heard it, but the way He will, in His way and in His time?

Can you imagine being Moses, hearing FROM GOD that He would free the Israelites, and then having to go to Pharaoh time after time after time, sign after sign after sign, plague after plague after plague, with the Israelites getting more steamed by the day and Pharaoh saying yes and then no time after time after time. Can you see yourself going to God, crying, "But You said! I know it was You. I heard You with my own ears and I saw You with my own eyes. C'mon...quit foolin' around!"

Look at Jesus! Here's the Guy Who can totally bring about the kingdom of Israel, right? I mean right now, agreed? When that didn't happen, according to everyone's expectations, His own apostles EXEPECTED Him to return in their lifetimes (remebr when he said stuff like this:

Luke 9:27

Now I am saying to you, truly there are some of those standing here who under no circumstances should be tasting death till they should be perceiving the kingdom of God.

Eight days after Jesus said those words – 8 days...that number is significant, I believe -- Jesus went up the mountain with Peter, James and John, and was transfigured. Look at the story with me:

Luke 9:28-

28 Now it occurred about eight days after these sayings, taking along Peter and John and James also, that He ascended into the mountain to pray.

Quick aside: what are “these sayings” in verse 28? Remember “sayings” is rhema or “declarations” in Greek. Jesus had asked His disciples who people were saying He was (he’d just miraculously fed 5,000 people). Some said He was John the Baptist (bizarre since although he’d been beheaded by now, he’s also been alive at the same time, but never mind; some called Him Elijah, and some said He was one of the prophets. Then, when Peter was asked and declared that Jesus was the Christ – the Messiah – that’s what the scripture is referring to as “these sayings.”

29 And it occurred, in His praying, to the perception His face became different, and His vesture glittering white.

30 And lo! two men conferred with Him, who were Moses and Elijah,

31 who, being seen in the glory, spoke of His exodus, which He was about to be completing in Jerusalem.

Moses and Elijah were identified by men who had never laid eyes on either one. They must have been heard speaking to Jesus for the 3 disciples to know that the subject was His exodus – His departure – His death, actually.

So, now take all this in the context of what we’ve just been exploring. Jesus said there were people standing right there with Him who would be alive to see Him some in His glory. He goes up the mountain, finds out, I believe, what the rest of the plan was and all of a sudden, Woops! My bad. Remember what I just said? Scratch that...New plan! Is that what happened? No, He went on trusting God, and He never went back to those people to say, “Hey – new plan!” NO! They probably held on to it until He died, scratching their heads in confusion when Jesus died, knowing they heard what they heard.

Now, what about John the beloved, about whom as He and Peter walked together, Jesus said, *"If I should be wanting him to be remaining till I am coming, what is it to you? You be following Me!"* **(John 21:22)**

John himself was careful to explain this, but his explanation was decades after the fact:

23 This word, then, came out to the brethren, that that disciple is not dying. Now Jesus did not say to him that he is not dying, but, "If I should be *wanting* him to be remaining till I am coming, what is it to you?"

For the record, I am certain that God's word is the truth and will always come to pass exactly as He speaks it; however it seems obvious to me that we may misperceive the word we hear in ways that lead us into expectations He does not author and, therefore, is not bound by.

When I wrote about stratagems in my book, GO GOD!, or whenever I speak about them, I use the term, "side-swipe," to describe them. To me, side-swipes are a cowardly attack that is without substance. It might get under your skin, but you can learn to spot them coming and even side-step them. That would make a great seminar titled, "How to Side-Step Satan's Side-Swipes."

God is no coward. He doesn't side-swipe. He broadsides! If He gives you a word, and you're sure you heard it correctly, and it doesn't happen when and how you heard it, consider yourself broad-sided by God. It's not malicious...He's our Papa and He loves us, but we HAVE to consider that we misperceived, misheard, misinterpreted, or maybe we just aren't privy to the counsel of His will.

What we know for sure is that God is God and We Are Not and we're either going to trust Him, no matter what, or we aren't. Then, He can trust US, no matter what, or He can't. Which side do you want to be found standing on? Can God help Himself to your life, or can't He. Does He have to perform for You – Did He have to perform for Jesus, or Did the Father require The Son to trust Him...to believe without evidence beforehand.