

Day 47

- Good Morning!! Let's continue on the same path as Day 46. We started into why the Israelites wanted a human king. They told Samuel it was because his sons were corrupt (which is reminiscent of Eli's sons at the time God rose up young Samuel as a prophet — the first prophet to be in Israel for a very, very long time).
- We made it to the god mammon — the demon god who entices people with money, wealth, and I would even add fame into that as well. Then Holy Spirit brought us to our five senses, the gates which give open access into our lives.
- We began to talk about how our eye gate can open portals to the enemy of our soul, satan.

- Side note: Many of you may wonder why I usually include “satan” in the phrase “the enemy of our soul.” I use the phrase a lot, and I put his name in it because I want to drive home that we have an enemy, an actual prowling around enemy. So much humanism has entered the teachings in the Church, that often satan is very rarely taught on if at all, and many have even decided he doesn't exist. Ummm, really? Then what is the point of Jesus dying for our sins and freeing us from eternal death, and reinstating our right and ability to have perfect communion with the Father? Not to mention, how much easier it is for satan to manipulate and destroy lives of people, Church people, when they think he doesn't exist. He doesn't even have to try.

- I know that I am bringing us into areas of teaching that have not been taught in many of the mainstream churches for a long time, unfortunately. Clearing my throat here — part (if not a huge part) of that reason is because of mammon being a god within the confines of the Church. It is impossible for ministers to teach the full truths of the gospel if they have divided loyalties. “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” Matthew 6:24.
- When we become dependent on money from people to fund the Church, as opposed to trusting in God only to meet every need including every financial need, and as ministers, pay our bills and our mortgages, send our kids to college, etc., we can begin to compromise on what we teach from the Bible.
- If a minister has consecrated herself or himself to honoring God in all financial matters no matter what, then when a person in the congregation comes to that minister and says, “if you don't stop teaching about sexual sin, then I will remove my very large contributions to the church.” It will be much easier for that minister to say, “I not only cannot honor your request, I will not honor your requests, for I answer to God, not man.” Now, maybe the minister puts it softer than I just did, but either way, the stance is taken. Whatever money that person removes from the offering of that church will not only be met in another way, I know God will most likely double it; because He always honors His faithful ones. We have to consecrate from the very beginning that we will not compromise on teaching the gospel. Because the attacks of the enemy for us to compromise will come, and if we are consecrated to not compromising, we will be able to stand in the face of the attack, unmoved by the tactics of the enemy of our soul, satan. But if we are not consecrated, it will be much harder to stand firm and not compromise the gospel.
- I believe no minister called of God ever starts down this path. They don't say, “I want to get rich and have a cushy life; I'm going into ministry.” Uh, no, that is ridiculous.
- Yet, as ministers of the gospel, we fully answer to God. We have been placed as plum line measurers and structure keepers (Apostles); exposures, correctors, truth sayers for the LORD (prophets); harvesters, rescuers, and deliverers (evangelists); shepherds, caregivers, and counselors (pastors); instructors, knowledge givers, and boundary setters (teachers). Each of these parts of the Body of Christ are essential, for they were given to the Church by Jesus Himself.

- “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors, and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we ALL come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.” Ephesians 4:11-14.
- To serve God in such a place is to be held accountable to God for every person under our care. It is a big, big deal. It is an honor, but it is an honor with an anointing that can only be placed on us by Jesus Himself. If we try to walk in anyone of these places without having the anointing from Jesus to do so, eventually the weight of the office will destroy us. To be in such a position cannot be about being elevated, being the center of attention, gaining prestige, gaining a platform, or gaining wealth. Now, elevation, honor, a platform, and wealth may come to one Jesus calls and anoints, but if that person’s focus ever changes to those things, the harvest for that will be very painful, and will not only effect the minister, but every person under his or her care.
- I share this, in no way to speak condemnation on ministers of the gospel, but as a correcting and a warning to any who may hear this and receive conviction from Holy Spirit. God’s mercies are new every morning. If anyone of us has felt the conviction of Holy Spirit, repent before Him, ask Jesus to forgive you, to cleanse you from all unrighteousness, and to wash you anew with His blood. Re-consecrate yourself to God and God alone. Ask Holy Spirit to reveal to you any and all things and possibly people that or who have to be cut from your life, and do it immediately, so you can be set free and restored to full service of God and to His people. Also, I recommend you have a trusted and upright accountability partner that you can be totally honest with. If you are married, hopefully, that person can be your spouse.
- Well, it’s getting deep!
- The eye gate is probably the strongest portal satan tries to tempt us with. Because what we see, we can quickly take in and plant within us. Eyes can be tempted with sexual sin, death and killing, horror and demonic movies, video games, and activities (which are extremely dangerous to a saved person — to any person). Many of us are truly unaware of how just viewing these things can open wide portals for the enemy to come into our lives and not just torment us, but to lead us to complete destruction. Some of you may be thinking I am getting legalistic on this, but I am truly not, for I abhor legalism. I am sharing this because I want everyone to have the opportunity to be completely free, and I want each of us to truly have the tools to use against the enemy of our soul, satan.
- The ear gate is the eye gate’s twin brother — for when we watch things, we often are hearing it as well, and what we hear gets quickly imbedded in us.
- How do we know if our eye gates and ear gates have been actively being used to slowly poison us by the enemy of our soul, satan? Step back and listen to what we say out of our mouths and look at what we are drawn to watch.
- If only anger, hate, malice, judgmental words, or sexually debasing words, or negative things — darkness of any kind come out of us, or that is what we are drawn to, we need to re-evaluate what we are allowing into our five sense gates, especially the eyes and ears.
- “For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.” Matthew 12:34.
- We are admonished for our own well being, so we can walk in the full blessings of God, and so that we will not experience Hosea 4:6, “My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.” To “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy — meditate [think on, chew on] on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.” Philippians 4:8-9.
- That is a promise to stand on!!

- I want the God of peace with me; I want the peace of God that surpasses all understanding, to guard my heart and my mind through Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7).
- We have a free will, all of our choices are part of the system of government God set in motion from the beginning of time. Everything is seed, plant, harvest. Once we are in Christ Jesus, only we can give the enemy of our souls, satan, access to torment us. We are truly given the rights to choose.
- This is why the LORD says in Deuteronomy 30:19-20, "I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; that you may love the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and length of your days."
- I speak blessing over your lives today, that your hearts will long to be closer to God Most High, that His calling to you will not go unheard and unanswered, that He will begin to reveal Himself to you in ways you didn't know possible, and that you will begin to be a blessing to all who are around you.
- Be encouraged! We are completely, extraordinarily, and saturatingly loved by the Living God!