

E-votional 117

Where There Is No Revelation

Proverbs 29:18 (NKJV)

"Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; But happy is he who keeps the law."

This right here is an interesting phrase and one I believe might just very well need a little explanation. To do this, however, we will first need to look at the word revelation for a greater emphasis on what we are talking about here. The word revelation, in a more detailed version from Brown-Driver-Briggs is as follows, taken from, https://biblehub.com/hebrew/2377.htm

1 vision, as seen in the ecstatic state "" קסם Micah 3:6; "" מקסם Ezekiel 12:24; "" חזה ח Daniel 1:17; "" ביא Daniel 9:24; חזה ח Ezekiel 12:27; Ezekiel 13:16; ראה ח בר Daniel 8:15; בר בח Daniel 8:15; בר בח Daniel 8:2 (twice in verse); Daniel 9:21; ראה ח מיהוה Psalm 89:20; מצא ח מיהוה Daniel 8:1 vision appeared unto; מצא ח מיהוה Lamentations 2:9 find a vision from Yahweh; also Ezekiel 12:22,23; Daniel 8:13,17,26; Daniel 10:14; Daniel 11:14.

2 vision, in the night חַזון לַיִלָה Isaiah 29:7.

3 divine communication in a vision, oracle, prophecy בקשׁ ח מנביא 'seek a vision (prophecy) from prophet Ezekiel 7:26; "" 1 בר (יוַם דבר Samuel 3:1; 1 Chronicles 17:15; חֲדֵבַּ וְדַבַּ וְדַבַּ וְדַבַּ וֹבְּ וְדַבַּ וֹרָוּ Jeremiah 23:16 a prophecy of their own hearts (minds) they speak; חֲזוֹן שֶׁקֶר וְקֶסֶם אֱלִיל וְתַרְמִית לָבָּם הַמָּה מִתְנַבְּאִים Jeremiah 14:14 FALSE vision and (see אֱלִיל מַרְמִית לִבָּם הַמָּה מִתְנַבְּאִים worthless divination & deceit of their own hearts they are prophesying; כתב ח 'כתב ח' seek a vision Habakkuk 2:2; also Hosea 12:11; Habakkuk 2:3; Proverbs 29:18; Ezekiel 7:13 (strike out Co).

4 vision, as title of book of prophecy,ספר חזון נחום Nahum 1:1; ישׁעיהו 'ח Isaiah 1:1; ישׁעיהו 'ח Obadiah; of other writings of prophets 2Chronicles 32:32.

If you noticed, in this more detailed version of the definition, we have many

accounts of other places in Scripture this word is used. This is helpful because it truly adds a greater emphasis on the word revelation as it relates to visions, prophetic utterances, and the giving of commands from God through His people.

The meaning of this phrase in Proverbs now gains a bit of traction. This traction is in that a people or group of people cannot restrain themselves from evil without revelation from God. And as mentioned earlier revelation is heavily reliant on visions, prophetic utterances, and also commands given through God's people to His people. With that being said, let's reflect on the law in the latter part of this passage.

It is good to note that the law of Moses was not a command of Moses but was a set of commands given to Moses by God for the benefit of God's people. You see it was divinely given to Moses to instruct the people. In short, it was the revelation of God and His commands for the people of God's choosing. Now, that this revelation was given, the people knew the righteousness of God and what was required of them and therefore had no excuse to go on in evil. Hence the phrase, "Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint."

This phrase basically means that when there is no revelation from God, the people invariably cast off all restraint and continue to go on as they please, but when God's revelation comes in it leaves us with the reality that there is a higher law and one that we need to conform to.

Now, let's flash forward from the time of the Law of Moses. I say this because it was and is still evident that by the keeping of the Law no man is righteous in the sight of God, for it is only through faith in Jesus Christ. And also, in the harmony of understanding this revelation of GHoid hear what Jesus Himself said in John 15:22,

'If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin.'

Let me explain, Jesus, the revelation of grace and truth said that if He had never come into the world the people He was revealed to would still be guilty of their sin but now they have no excuse for their sin because He is making the way out of it. In other words, the revelation of Christ into the world was prophetic revelation that brought about salvation for all who believe and know the truth that is in Christ Jesus. Praise the Lord for His revelation!

Moving on from here, revelation is also known as the Word being brought to life much like in the case of Jesus or the law of Moses being brought out to Moses.

So it is today, we need fresh revelation. Now, I am not saying that we need a new Bible or a new version of the Scriptures. I fully believe that God's Word is the final authority on every matter. However, I also fully believe that God still speaks today through His people in the same manner as in the rest of the Scriptures.

With that being said, we should understand that there are prophetic voices that God has commanded to speak today. Although we have the final authority in the written Word, it is also important to get fresh revelation from God to further instruct us. This further instruction does not move contrary to the written Word but is actually supported by it. We have the written Word to show us whether or not the prophetic revelation today we are hearing is in line with God's Word.

The need for personal prophetic revelation or that which comes from another brother or sister through the Holy Spirit is vital to us. Let me explain. Have you ever done something contrary to God's Word in your life? When you did this, and at the moment that you did, were you God-conscious? What I mean is that, were you at that moment aware that God was actually with you? I say it like this because if we were, to be honest, any time that we sinned against God we were more than likely not at that moment conscious of His presence in our lives. In other words, we were not restraining ourselves because of a lack of revelation. Now, this does not mean that we should at that moment feel something but rather that we are aware that God is near and is active in our lives. He shows us oftentimes more than we are willing to admit that He is with us through the revelation of the Scriptures or even a prophetic word given through inspiration of the Holy Spirit. I said more than we are willing to admit because often God somehow gives us revelation about a certain thing in our life and we ignore it. When we ignore it we forget the revelation and then when the time of temptation comes we cast off restraint to the temptation. But, when we are fully convinced and convicted by the Holy Spirit we can then when we are approached with sin and temptation become more emboldened to restrain ourselves from it.

So, in short, when we are walking in revelation from God or have been given clear vision from God we have a strong tendency to follow through with it and put on restraint from, anything that hinders our walks with Him. So, what shall we do then?

Well, brothers and sisters, I think we should put aside everything that hinders us and seek first His Kingdom and righteousness in every area of our life. It may be that we need patience to hear from the Lord on any given matter. But rest assured God is still in the revealing business and desires His children to walk closely to Him through it. Remember that the people cast off restraint when there is no revelation. So the heart of the matter is that we should cry out for

discernment and pray that the Lord would continuously reveal His will to us so that we can restrain ourselves with full conviction on the day of testing because we are assured of His will for our lives. May the Lord bless you always brothers and sisters, in Christ's love.

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