



# **Lights and Perfection, Inc.**

**Go and make disciples!**

E-votional 123

**This is the way, walk in it.**

Isaiah 30:21

*Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it,"  
Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left.*

The other morning I woke up in prayer and immediately was praying this scripture and I didn't know where it was in the Bible at the time, but it was in my heart. It was like the Holy Spirit was giving me this scripture, and to preface that I want to say up to that point I had also been praying the night before.

*"God, I just want to hear your voice. I want to see the working of your hands in my life. I want to be led by you. I need to hear a voice behind me say, 'this is the way, walk in it.'"*

The understanding behind that is because sometimes we can get so caught in our own continuous efforts to please the Lord that sometimes we forget to be still and just know that he is God.

After this prayer, I got into my devotions and Bible reading. And I opened up a devotional that I sometimes read and it went right to this chapter in Isaiah. And I thought, wow, OK, God, you're trying to show me something here.

The theme here I want to talk about is hearing that voice behind us and walking in it. But first I would like to bring in some context.

If you go and read through verses 1 to 22, you'll understand the context of this passage. I don't ever want to just cherry-pick a scripture, I want to bring out the context. This begins in verse one. It says,

*"Woe to the rebellious children," says the Lord, "Who take counsel, but not of Me, And who devise plans, but not of My Spirit, That they may add sin to sin"*  
(Isaiah 30:1)

The context here was about God's people, who in the very next verse (2) went down to Egypt without consulting God. The reason they went to Egypt is that there was an imminent threat against God's people, and rather than seek him, through fear sought other avenues of protection and safety.

So the people of God, the children of Israel at this moment in history, when they were threatened by enemies around thought, hey, you know why don't we just go to Egypt and maybe form an alliance with them and then their armies can protect us. But God is saying *'woe to the rebellious children, says the Lord who take counsel but not of Me.'*

You're wondering, well, what does that have to do with your preface? Well, to be transparent I've been going through a season where it seems like God has hit the brakes on a lot of things in my life, and I feel like he's trying to move me in another direction but I just haven't received the full memo yet.

And the thought, for me anyway, is during this time of stopping and moving in another direction, that I have the temptation to try to form another plan because I feel like I'm not doing something right. After all, everything stopped right, and I've got to do something.

And so what I meant at the beginning about the continuous momentum of trying to do things that please God is that sometimes we get so caught up in that work that when we are called to stop, it becomes difficult for us, and so at that point in time we want to form safety nets around our life to continue thrusting us forward where we feel like we have stopped.

During those seasons of stopping us to redirect us, our flesh can get angsty and anxious to get on to the next thing where we try to formulate plans and proceed to move those plans forward.

And so, in this season, where God has just hit the brakes and it feels like everything that I was doing just came to a halt, I still know that He is leading me, but at the same time, because I'm so used to moving and doing things constantly, I have this tendency within me to question what God is doing and also to try to formulate plans to fill the void of time.

And so going back again to the Scriptures let's look at Isaiah 30:20-21, God is telling His people,

*"And though the Lord gives you The bread of adversity and the water of affliction, Yet your teachers will not be moved into a corner anymore, But your eyes shall see your teachers. Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying,*

*"This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left."*

It's true here that the people of God were trying to formulate a plan and to exercise that plan to provide for themselves a safety net instead of turning to God and just waiting on his timing. So because they effectuated the plan that they formed they also came into a place where God had given them the bread of affliction and water of oppression. In other words, God was chastising His people for forsaking him and his plans and not waiting on him.

In short, they were seeking other methods to provide what God alone can provide. And so in view of this, we are all in the same category at various times in various seasons in our life. And so I thought that this message would be really good to present to you, my brothers and sisters to see what God is saying to us through this word, because, you know, it's amazing that we can read the Scriptures and although it may be a historical thing that took place, we can always apply it to our lives.

For me personally, although I haven't effectuated a plan apart from God, the fact that at times I was thinking of planning a plan apart from God or I was feeling the need to have to create a safety net makes this applicable to me. And so in hearing this word, it kind of brought me back to that place of, just be still and know that God is God and then your ears will hear a word behind you, this is the way walk in it. Whenever you turn to the right or to the left.

This gave me great exhortation and confidence in the Lord because it reminded me that God is with me and I hope it reminds you that God is with you as well, brothers and sisters, so that your ears will hear a word behind you. There's no need to make a plan apart from God's plan. If you're in a season of stillness, it's ok. Wait on God's timing. The temptation will surely be there to cause you to want to make a plan because you may feel as if God has left and is no longer effectuating a plan in and through your life. I know I have had these thoughts come through my mind in this recent season I'm in and so it helps to know that no temptation has overtaken us, such as is common to man. But God is faithful who will not allow us to be tempted beyond what we are able, but with the temptation will make a way of escape so that we can endure.

And sometimes I think the way of escape is just being still and knowing that He is God and waiting to hear that word behind us that says this is the way walk in it.

And so in this season, right now I just want to be still and know that he is God and listen for that word that's behind me and not the one formulating ideas and

plans apart from Him in my own mind.

Again sometimes that message, that word that is behind us isn't a huge banner. Sometimes it's not a sign with lights going off, sometimes it's just the still small voice or nudge of the Holy Spirit to say, *'just keep on keeping on and I will reveal what you need, when you need it.'*

And so we have to keep our faith in Christ and in God's plans. we have the ancient Israelites and the Scriptures as a testimony. There were some great things that they did and there are also some bad things that they did, and so we want to glean from both. In this situation, they were rebellious and chose their own ways of provision and safety instead of the Lord's when all they had to do was be still and wait for that voice behind them proclaiming, "this is the way, walk in it.'

Well, we pray that we can all grow and learn from this in many ways and apply it to our lives. I hope that this testimony and teaching has encouraged some of you to varying degrees. The Lord always make His face shine upon you all, in Christ's great love and in His name alone, the name above all names, Amen.

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In Christ's Love,  
Chris and Jeanne  
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