

## **BJ18 Without Preconceived Notions**

In 1980 Sue and I attended our first Word of Faith Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma. We had only been saved and Spirit filled a few months and everything about the kingdom of God was so new, and so precious to us. Different ministers would speak, then there would be a break, and then another minister would speak. During one of those breaks, I had short mini vision where I saw myself (this is embarrassing) as a bride in a bed awaiting my husband to come join me. (Hairy legs and all, I am part of the bride of Christ.) We had only been saved a few months and I was not at all sure this little mini-vision was from God or not.

A famous evangelist and worship leader named Len Mink came to lead the worship as the second session began. He wanted to share a vision he had received during the break. He had the very same vision I had. I was so new to how the Holy Spirit leads; I really appreciated that confirmation that I was hearing God.

*1987- Remember at camp-meeting years ago where I visited you and asked, "Are you willing to be impregnated with My dream and hold that dream within you until fulfillment and birth would come?" You said yes. I accepted that, but you were not of childbearing age. But now I say to both of you that you are of childbearing age.*

*Seek Me without preconceived notions; without forcing Me to fit in with your plans - then I will give you My dreams. I will plant My vision and My dream within you. You now know the futility of anything but My Word bringing joy to your life. My Word brings all things richly into your life to enjoy.*

*You will find that as you walk more and more in My perfect will that it will be the delight of your heart, and the rejoicing of your spirit. Prepare to receive My dreams. Thy husband comes.*

As a young man, Oral Roberts dreamed of becoming the first man of Indian heritage to become the governor of Oklahoma. That was his dream. It was not the Lord's plan for his life. God told Oral Roberts he would bring God's healing power into the living rooms of America. I'm sure that sounded impossible at first. But over time, through the televised healing crusades, Oral did exactly that. I was one of the millions who watched on television as the Lord would flow through Oral Roberts to empty wheelchairs, cause the blind to see, and many other miracles.

All of the dreams of Saul of Tarsus came to an end on that day when he met Jesus on the road to Damascus. There were only two questions that mattered. "Who are you?" And, "What would you have me do?" It was the will of Jesus that Saul of Tarsus become Paul the apostle, and the rest is history.

Don't get me wrong. God does not call everybody into a pulpit type ministry. Joel's army will be made up of barbers, mechanics, housewives, nurses, taxi drivers, grocery store workers ... every profession on earth. He needs His laborers to be where the sinners are in order to be His witnesses. The most important thing for all of God's army is that they be led by the Spirit of God, and that they become fearless in sharing their testimony with the lost.

**2 Timothy 1:7 KJV For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.**

The Greek word translated "fear" in that verse is not "Phobos" ... like a phobia type of fear. It is better translated "timidity." We are not to be timid.

**2 Timothy 1:7 AMPC For God did not give us a spirit of timidity (of cowardice, of craven and cringing and fawning fear), but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of calm and well-balanced mind and discipline and self-control.**

But that does not mean boldness without being led by the Spirit. We just assume to much and do not lean upon the Holy Spirit for leadership as much as we should. How do you reconcile these two verses?

**Luke 6:30 KJV Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again.**

**Luke 15:16 KJV And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.**

The prodigal son needed to hit rock bottom in order to repent and return to his father's house. That last thing he needed was for some non-lead Christian to give food to him and thereby support his rebellion against the Father.

*1987- Human compassion is deadly as poison. Godly compassion gives life. You must do those things that I speak unto you, sayeth the Lord, and not be directed by human compassion. I know you have trouble discerning the two at this point. But I will be teaching you. There are people who will come and make demands on your human compassion. They will pull at your soul. They will tug at your emotions. And your human compassion will want to pour out to them. But that compassion, when it is substituted for My compassion, leaves them empty, void, hungry, and thirsty. You will be learning how to hear the voice of compassion from God in your spirit. My voice will rise up and say, "No. That's not what they need. Here is what they need." Give them what I tell you. They don't know what they need. Remember the beggar at the gate beautiful. He thought he needed alms. What he needed was healing.*

First level of leadership ... the written word of God. UNLESS you get a check from the Holy Spirit. [Tell example of the \$100,000 that I was not allowed to touch except by His leadership.] I cried bitter tears when I was not allowed to give according to "my understanding" and had to rely on His instead.

**Proverbs 3:5-6 KJV Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. [6] In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.**

Of course we are to help the poor, feed the hungry, and clothe the naked. But we are not to become "enablers of rebellion" like the Prodigal Son. How long would most American Christians have enabled him to continue in his rebellion against the Father. He needed to hit rock bottom, and woe to anyone who delayed it.

So many parents give in to human love rather than follow the love of God when it comes to their children. No man gave to the Prodigal Son ... THANK GOD!

Feed the written word of God into you. It is your necessary food to feed your spirit. Learn to be led by the Holy Spirit. Spend much time in prayer, in worship, in the Word and in fasting. Learn to follow the Good Shepherd. He will never lead you astray. "My sheep hear My voice." You can hear Him.