

Twenty-Twenty Vision

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GOOD EYESIGHT

God wants us to have 20/20 vision. Along with the new birth comes good spiritual eyesight. Clear spiritual vision is a gift from God. Yet many Christians today have spiritual cataracts and eye defects. Many believers can't see where they are headed. There is a fog and mist around them. Many have scales on their spiritual eyes. But God wants us to see clearly from whence we have come, where we are presently located, and where we are headed. God wants to give us 20/20 vision so that we can focus on His horizons for our lives. So where does 20/20 spiritual eyesight come from? How do we get it? How do we keep it? It's simple.

20/20 VISION

God's guarantee of 20/20 vision is found in chapter 20/verse 20 of Second Chronicles. There is a dynamic duo in II Chronicles 20:20. This scripture contains the power twins for 20/20 Christian vision. Let's look at this verse in three different Bible translations:

"And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper." (II Chronicles 20:20 KJV)

"Early in the morning they left for the Desert of Tekoa. As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful." (II Chronicles 20:20 NIV)

"And they rose early in the morning and went out into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and you inhabitants of Jerusalem! Believe in the Lord your God and you shall be established; believe and remain steadfast to His prophets and you shall prosper." (II Chronicles 20:20 AMP)

What is the dynamic duo? "Faith in God" and "Faith in His prophets." This verse promises success and prosperity for those who believe both God and His inspired messengers. First, we must believe God's written Word, the Holy Scripture. We must read, study, memorize, and meditate the scriptures. We must take God at His written Word. His written Word is the LOGOS of our lives. Yet with only the logos to live on, we still would have less than sufficient vision for Christian living. At the time Jehoshaphat stood and declared this promise, it was not a Bible verse, but rather a fresh prophetic word from God for the now-need of the moment. It was a spoken prophetic utterance—A RHEMA word. If one believes only the written word of God, he might become legalistic. But if one also believes the Holy Spirit's fresh "now" words of prophecy spoken through God's prophets and preachers, there will be life and freshness. We must remember the context of this verse of scripture. When Jehoshaphat discovered that foreign armies were invading Judah, he first turned to God's written word, the scripture. He knew the promise of II Chronicles 6:20 and 28. This scripture uttered by Solomon years before and memorized by Solomon said that the Lord would hear the prayers of His people when they stood towards the temple and would be delivered from enemy siege. So Jehoshaphat and all the people of Judah did exactly what this scripture commanded, expecting the promised results. Faith in God's written Word was all they needed to start getting results. So they were assured of deliverance on the authority of the scripture. Yet they still didn't have 20/20 vision. Jehoshaphat told the Lord that "we know not what to do, but our eyes are upon you" (verse 12). In Jehoshaphat's heart, he could see that deliverance was on the way just by believing God. But the vision of his heart was vague and hazy, not knowing any specifics or "how-to's". So, after standing on and believing God's written Word, another word came to Jehoshaphat. But it wasn't a scripture; it was a fresh prophetic utterance by a prophet of God. In that utterance (verse 14-17) it was told Jehoshaphat exactly what he must do and the results that would follow. And while that rhema word was being uttered, Jehoshaphat also received more specific details of what to do in his own heart (verses 21 and 22). So Jehoshaphat believed God, but he also believed the personal prophecy of the prophet. Thus Jehoshaphat gained 20/20 vision and saw precisely what he was to do and what God would do. This gave him supernatural confidence, confirmation, and a dual witness. The Logos Word and the rhema word working together became the power twins by which Jehoshaphat succeeded and Israel was delivered.

"The Word" and "a word"

Nothing can substitute for The Word of God in your life. But nothing can clarify and amplify The Word in your life any better than the word of a personal prophecy by the mouth of a holy man of God.

Robert Schuller was a young farm boy who had a heart for God and a Christian upbringing, but he had no idea what he wanted to be when he grew up. One day Robert's preacher-uncle was supposed to visit his parents. Anxiously awaiting his arrival, Robert bounded from his window to meet his uncle as he drove onto the farm. As his uncle greeted him, he said, "Robert, God is going to raise you up

to be a powerful preacher." From that moment forward, it was settled in Robert's heart what his destiny was. The rest is history.

So stand and act on your personal prophecies from bonafide New Testament prophets. This will guarantee you 20/20 vision for success and prosperity in every Christian endeavor. II Chronicles 20:20 is your 20/20 vision. "Believe the Lord and be established...believe His prophets and prosper!"

1 Timothy 1:18 NKJV: "This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare."