



Way of the Eagle

by Rhoda Collins

EXTREME HOPE

Hebrews 11 describes the radical faith that Abraham had:

"By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the Promised Land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore."

We need to create some part of our lives that God can breathe on and add a blessing to such as: our finances; our ministry; our family; our job.

If you have a dream that has been in your life and it's been there for a long time, you need to refresh your dreams; they need life put in them!

We need to be careful not to categorize our dreams into spiritual and natural. Sometimes the anointing for the breakthrough to a spiritual solution is found in a natural answer to prayer. We can't be trusted to dissect our lives well enough in how God is going to bring us into the breakthrough we long for. All of God's answers to prayer; all of His fulfilment; all of the satisfaction that we were born for; they all reveal Him. We owe people a life that is extreme in Hope. People in the natural hope for things like: "I hope I get this job. I hope they will accept me. I hope this and that will happen".

Biblical hope means the joyful anticipation of God's wonderful blessing, for example: "I am sitting on the edge of my seat full of joy excited because I know what is coming my way"!

This hope becomes an atmosphere that faith grows in and attracts the promises of God. There are Christians who have the talk; have the right answer; but when they are facing negative circumstances, hopelessness swallows up that part of their lives and their natural hope.

We need to rely on extreme or supernatural hope!

Abraham was honored by God when he was called God's friend. Romans chapter 4 is dedicated to Abraham. The Lord wanted to honor Abraham who believed when it was impossible what he was believing for. This kind of hope is when natural hope is swallowed up by divine hope which knows no limitations.

What's the difference between natural hope and divine hope?

Natural hope refers to people who live with a positive outlook about their lives. Divine hope knows no limitations and we see prophetically the plan of God for our lives and we are one of the instruments of God to help bring about what God is doing on earth.

In Habakkuk 2 God tells the prophet to write the vision down:

"Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it.
For the revelation awaits an appointed time;
it speaks of the end and will not prove false.
Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come
and will not delay".

There are some people that have a comfort zone of unbelief. It's easier to hope and be pleased "if" it happens, but to know it will happen and be looking for it, is a different kind of hope.

The Lord is looking for people who can display what He promises. To do that requires more than reading or memorizing passages in the Bible. It requires deep exposure to our supernatural senses and developing our relationship with God.

In **Romans 4: 17-18** Abraham became according to what was spoken: **“As it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations” in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, “So shall your descendants be.”**

This is the heart of the Lord for every person that we will become what He says that we will become.

In Verse 19-24 of the Message Bible it says: “Abraham didn’t focus on his own impotence and say, “It’s hopeless. This hundred-year-old body could never father a child.” Nor did he survey Sarah’s decades of infertility and give up. He didn’t tiptoe around God’s promise asking cautiously skeptical questions. He plunged into the promise and came up strong, ready for God, sure that God would make good on what He had said. That’s why it is said, **“Abraham was declared fit before God by trusting God to set him right.”** Abraham plunged into God’s promises and came up strong.

Make your dream list that God is giving you and write your visions down. And it could be anything from having a house on the ocean to raising the dead, so don't categorize. There is no such thing as a spiritual job or secular job. Once you're in it becomes a spiritual point of occupation. There are a lot of people in ministry who says: “God is first; family second; church third, etc.” This is great but you can change it to where you say: “God is number one and there is no number two”. Our love for our family is a part of our offering to God. Our love for our spouse or child is all an expression of worship to God. We can learn to capture every single part of life and bring it into the scope of what is an offering; what we can give to the Lord as a fragrant offering to Him for His glory. We can learn to no longer separate sacred from secular!

Abraham believed God in the middle of the impossibility... he was impotent and his wife was barren. In that atmosphere of contagious hope, a miracle came forth. Abraham was known for extreme faith and extreme hope. Lot was known for being righteous, but his life became engulfed by the sinful conduct of people around him and his own effectiveness was crippled. If you compare these 2 men... both are called righteous; both are going to spend eternity with God; both had promise, but Abraham defined his surroundings; Lot was defined by his surroundings. Abraham lived with hope that swallowed natural hope; Lot just had wishes. Your legacy and realization of dreams comes out of hope. Infectious hope is the kind that defines your surroundings and is what creates the atmosphere for your legacy with God.

Hebrews 6: 12 says: **“In order that you may not grow disinterested and become [spiritual] sluggards, but imitators, behaving as do those who through faith (by their leaning of the entire personality on God in Christ in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness) and by practice of patient endurance and waiting are [now] inheriting the promises”.** Here it doesn't say faith helps you have your promises fulfilled, but instead abiding faith attracts the promises of God. God is a good steward. He plants in healthy environments, which is the heart of hope. Divine hope consumes natural hope. It's hard to keep natural hope alive. There are too many negative situations around that can adversely affect us mentally, emotionally and physically. But when you hear God speak personally to you, situations don't change your hope. Spend time with God and keep speaking out the promises of God and believe with all of your heart that it shall come to pass.

Teaching inspired by Bill Johnson

“This hope we have...”

Hebrews 6:19