

GROWING IN GOD

PODCAST



GIG287 – Seeing Him Who Is Invisible

Hi, and welcome to the podcast. This is a special edition for our *Growing In God* podcast, as it is produced from a Zoom call that we at Hargrave Ministries have occasionally with our donors. When we have these times together and feel it is important for others to be a part of what we are discussing, we create the meeting into a podcast for release. So I hope that you will enjoy this podcast; and if you like being a part of these discussions, I would encourage you to go to our website at hargraveministries.org and join our Fellow Workers.

What I would like to do today is get right into talking about the message that the Lord has been making so real to me. There are a few things that have been coming for the last week or two. I will try to shorten them so that they do not get too long; so maybe we are going to be covering this over a few of our meetings together. I think the last meeting we had was quite long, and since we turn them into podcasts we try not to get them quite as long. But I think it is also important that the message be clear and get out to people to be able to hear it, even if it is a little long. And if they get tired, they can turn it off and come back to it. I really just want to get the Word into people's hearts.

What I want to do today is talk about the Scripture starting with Matthew the twenty-first chapter, verse 22. It says, "All things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive." This is something for me that I have been working on. Actually, I was very moved by what we were into a few weeks ago with John 17, and I still have to say that is so alive to me, that Christ was saying the Father loves us as much as He loves Christ. I think what it did for me, at least, was just kind of put me through a lot of different Scriptures where I feel like we have a tendency to... I do not know what the right word is; I do not want to say we do not believe it, but I think we are kind of not convinced of how real what the words are saying is. I was going to bring a message, which maybe I will do next week, and put us all on a little bit of a project together. We will go through the Scriptures and find where there are verses like that, where we tend to take them a little more lightly than we should, rather than recognizing, "God is really speaking this to us." I was going to name the message something like, *Does God Really Mean That?* Or, *Does Paul really mean that? Did the Holy Spirit really mean that when He said that?* Because I feel like there are these verses we hit that are just impacting if we take them absolutely at face value. So, be blessing that, and maybe we can get into it during our next time together. Then we will put ourselves on a little project to dig in and find these verses, and put them all together in a document that we can email out and have in front of us to work with, because I really want to get over that situation.

In the process of praying about that, I hit this verse in Matthew 21:22: "All things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive." I think this verse kind of falls into that category: is it really real to us that when we ask, we will receive what we are asking for, if we are believing that? There is not a question to it, it is an absolute promise; and I love this verse because it is Yeshua that is speaking it to us, and I think that He means what He says. So as I was really working on the concept of this idea, I went into Hebrews the eleventh chapter; because when we talk about this idea of believing, it is, of course, very connected with the whole idea of faith, and do we have faith in what the Lord is saying. Going back to John 17, where Yeshua was saying that the Father loves us as much as He loved Him; we would say, "Boy, I have

to have faith for that," or, "I have to believe that." And so, I think that when we run into these verses, we run up against this idea of faith, or believing. There is something about our understanding of faith that all of a sudden I began to feel like this is kind of a prerequisite to this idea of, "Did God really mean that?" or, "Do I really believe that? Can I really hold onto that and not waver or doubt? Do I really have faith in it?"

I started realizing that we have to enter into this realm that God is in, and we have to enter into this realm that Yeshua is in. As He said, "Where I am, there shall My servants be also." We have been talking a lot about quantum physics and quantum ideas, and how that whole area of quantum science works, and how much it plays into our faith; and the Scriptures and the Bible kind of overlap it at this point. There has been a history of separation between religion and science, and now we really see religion and science coming back together when we come into this idea of quantum physics; because it begins to explain in ways how our faith, or our belief, or God, operates, and it gives us an understanding, I think, that is deeper than what we have had in the past. So I really wanted to jump into some things here with Hebrews 11 and track through the better part of this chapter. Of course, I invite you to read all of Hebrews 11 at some point after we have our time together.

Let's start at Hebrews 11, verse 1. If you have a Bible or whatever you use for the Scriptures, you can follow along with this, because we are going to skip through many of these verses in Hebrews 11 and I think it will help you to see them. So if we begin at the very beginning, we see that verses 1-3 say,

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the men of old gained approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.

Of course, I love that we are doing this on Shabbat, because this is the whole foundation of the Sabbath, isn't it? That God finished His work and He created all that He created, then He rested and sanctified that Sabbath day because He finished His work. Hebrews 11 is recounting the fact that the work is finished and it was created and prepared by God, so that what is seen was not made out of that which is visible. And that, to me, becomes very much the heart of our walk with God; because everything about what we call religion, or Christianity, or Judaism, is really based on that which is invisible becoming visible. I think it is very much what and who we are in the earth as we walk with God, that He is looking for us to bring into the visible that which is yet unseen. That is what Hebrews 11 is talking about, this idea of the unseen becoming seen.

We really want to get this to come alive to us; because if we are going to use the word faith, "faith is the...," and this version uses the word *assurance*. But as much as I like the New American Standard Bible, I really do not appreciate this translation of this verse as much as I do other areas of it. So let me just read these verses 1-3 in a few other Bible translations. First I will go to the good old King James, because it uses language we are familiar with if we have been studying the Scriptures a long time. It says,

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

When we get into this, we really see that to talk about prayer, to talk about having faith, to talk about walking with God, it is really all about us having this ability which the fathers had to bring into this material world that which is unseen. Just as God manifested that which was unseen into the visible world, so also I believe we are to be enabled to understand how to do that. And to me what Hebrews 11

is talking about is there is a Sabbath rest for us to enter into, and we are to enter into a Sabbath rest. In other words, we are to be able to manifest that which God has sent us here to manifest, and to complete the work which we have been given to do. Christ said that: "I have finished the work that He has given Me to do." So we are here with a purpose, and I think the fulfillment of that purpose requires an enabling for us to make visible that which is yet in the invisible, which is what Hebrews is talking about.

So let's look at some of these other verses and see if we can just move through them a little bit. Let me jump to Hebrews 11:5. It says, "By faith Enoch was taken up so that he would not see death; and he was not found because God took him up; for he obtained the witness that before his being taken up he was pleasing to God." In other words, Enoch had this relationship with God, and that relationship with God, where he was seeing God and relating to God in these things, presents kind of another side of the coin; he actually did not experience bringing something visible, but rather not seeing what should have been by nature visible. In other words, he should have died like everybody else; but he did not die because of this sight that comes by faith. I just wanted to throw that in there so you can see how deep this goes into our relationship with God in producing things that deal between the visible and the invisible world. So, "Enoch was taken up so that he would not see death; and he was not found because God took him up; for he obtained the witness that before his being taken up he was pleasing to God."

Now let's go down to verses 13-14. "All these died in faith." This is an important verse for me to get across. "All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own." When we read this, and I will say it for myself; when I have read this in the past, it kind of makes me feel like these people did not really accomplish what it was that they were trying to accomplish, or were here to accomplish. And I do not think it is saying that. It said they died in faith, without receiving the promise. Now we have a promise about the Kingdom, and that promise of the Kingdom, of entering into the Kingdom, is a very distinct promise; but that is not necessarily what we are here to do or to accomplish, as far as making manifest in a material world what God is looking to have manifested. So just hold that thought for a second and let's keep reading some verses.

Jump down to Hebrews 11:27. It says, speaking of Moshe, Moses, "By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing Him who is unseen." This verse connects us to a clearer understanding about what the term faith is. In the beginning it talks about faith: "By faith he left Egypt." But that faith was an expression or a result of something that was very important that Moshe experienced, or knew, or had. "He left Egypt, not fearing," there was no fear in him for "the wrath of the king for he endured," and let's just say it this way, "seeing Him who is unseen." Moses was seeing Him who is unseen. This does not mean that God is not seeable, it just means that in the natural, material world, God is not seen as a normal course of our existence. But Moses was moving in the natural world by seeing Him who is not seen in the natural world.

We have to get this, because when we talk about this thing "by faith," we have to see really what this faith was. Faith is the substance of the thing hoped for, it is the evidence. Well, the evidence, the substance, is God. The substance is that reality of the spirit world that does exist. It is the reality that God created the visible world out of, because what is seen was created out of that which is not seen. So we get the fact that there is this unseen world, speaking from the level of the material world. If we are in the material world, if we are locked into the material world, then this world of what, if you want

to call it heaven, if you want to call it the quantum, if you want to call it space, is an unseen world from this realm that we are for the most part locked into and that we exist on and function in. So we have to get the difference of where this wording is trying to take us. Otherwise, we can read this whole thing of Hebrews about faith and kind of end up at the end of it with not faith that what we are believing for is going to happen or has happened – it is maybe promised to us, but everybody else who had this promise did not seem to get what was promised, so why should we think we can get what was promised? And there is kind of this behind-the-scenes element which I think is something that really is infused into what we call our faith. I think our faith a lot of times has tremendous expression of doubt or unbelief. The reason is because we are not experiencing those first verses where we are seeing, like Moses did, Him who is invisible, and therefore our faith is the evidence of the thing not seen.

What is the evidence that it is going to work? It is seeing God. It is seeing Yeshua. If we see Them, if we see Them, it is very clear to us that whatever we ask for is going to happen, like He said in Matthew. There is no doubt in our faith, because it is not blind. This idea of blind faith, that is not faith. We are supposed to reach in to see in the invisible. One of the things we were taught, those of us who walked with John Stevens as our mentor and apostle, is that we should walk in two realms at once. Clearly, Yeshua walked in two realms at once. He walked through the door and talked to the disciples after the resurrection. He would be seen one moment, not seen the other. And you say, "It is because of the resurrection." Well, when He went to the Mount of Transfiguration, He was not what we call resurrected yet; but still we see Him existing as that being of light that is unseen to this world. I think it is why Yeshua went off by Himself so often to pray; because that would have stumbled a lot of people if they were watching Him pray and seeing the Father showing up and Him being transfigured. I do not think His transfiguration was a one-time thing. I think the disciples saw it and it was recorded in the Scriptures once, but I think this was kind of a way of life for Him. I think Christ did the things He did because, what did He say? He said it very clearly: "I do those things which I see the Father doing. I speak those things which I hear the Father speaking." So He was not working from some place of hope. It was not hope, it was true faith. And faith is seeing.

I think when you hit that verse 27 of Hebrews 11, it really connects for us in an explosive way the recognition that faith is seeing Him who is invisible. And when we see Him who is invisible, then there is nothing doubting. If you pray nothing doubting, you are going to have what you see. But we only have that when we are able to behold Him. "While beholding Him we are changed from glory to glory into His image" (2 Corinthians 3:18). So I think this verse 27 becomes a key. Now you can maybe feel like I am mistranslating it. I spent a lot of time going through the Greek and blending it into Hebrew to look at the meanings of the words and how they are used in other parts of the Scriptures, and you can do that yourself. But when you finish, there is this tremendous connection between faith and seeing as it is expressed in this verse 27: "By faith he," Moses, "left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing Him who is unseen." So faith is seeing Him who is unseen.

This is the concept, if we relate our faith with quantum physics and we relate to it in the physical realm. What is it? It is the observer effect. When you observe the thing, then that is what makes it collapse into the material world. So it is the seeing that collapses it. Faith is the seeing; and when you see, instead of just faith, when you are seeing the thing and beholding it, it will collapse into the reality of this world that we are living in. And we are living in this world; God has us here for a purpose, just like He had all these people He was talking about in Hebrews. They were all here as divine beings having a human experience for a reason; and the reason was all of the things that God wanted to bring into sight, into visual existence and reality, in the material world. And the way that works in the physics of the quantum

realm is the observer effect; you have to see it. So what we are reaching for in our walk right now is to see Him, to behold Him; and while we behold Him, we will be changed. And we can behold Him; we have to reach into that.

When we have that understanding, one thing it does is that we can kind of substitute this idea of seeing for faith. Let's look at some other verses in Hebrews 11 and read them that way. Verses 28-31,

By *seeing Him* he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that he who destroyed the firstborn would not touch them. By *seeing Him who is invisible* they passed through the Red Sea as though they were passing through dry land; and the Egyptians, when they attempted it, were drowned. *Seeing Him who is invisible* the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. *Seeing Him who is invisible* Rahab the harlot did not perish along with those who were disobedient....

Let's jump down and look at verses 33-39.

Seeing Him who is invisible they conquered kingdoms, performed acts of righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received back their dead by resurrection; and others were tortured, not accepting their release, so that they might obtain a better resurrection; and others experienced mockings and scourgings, yes, also chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were put to death with the sword; they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, ill-treated (men [and women] of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains and caves and holes in the ground. And all these, having gained approval through *seeing Him who is invisible*, did not receive what was promised.

In these verses you can see the dichotomy between not receiving what was promised and what they did accomplish. In other words, did they receive the heavenly Kingdom? No, but look at all the things they manifested on the physical plane of this earth and made manifest into the world of that which was invisible. Because they saw Him who is invisible, they manifested into reality that which did not exist; and there is no other way to manifest that which does not exist, which is what faith and miracles are about. You cannot make a miracle out of that which is seen. You make it out of that which is unseen. And the only way you can accomplish that is by seeing Him who is invisible. When we see Him who is invisible, then that which is invisible manifests itself into this realm in which we live, the world in which we live.

Like I said, I have read this so many times and it says that they did not receive what was promised. And it goes on to say, "Because God had promised something better for us, so that apart from us they would not be made perfect." Okay, but we are talking here about the Kingdom of God. We are talking about something that is greater, like they were contending for; they were from a realm that was not of this world, and that was what they were ultimately believing for as a promise. But you have to separate that from all the things that God used in the lives of the men and women of the Hebrew Scriptures to accomplish His will and purposes in the earth. All these things that they did; my gosh, they received back their dead by resurrection! Well, that was before there was resurrection – that was not because of the resurrection of Christ having happened on this physical world. It was reaching into that which would be manifest and manifesting it now. They put foreign armies to flight, they made the walls of Jericho fall down. They saw the destruction of Egypt, they walked across the Red Sea on dry land. They quenched

the power of fire, they escaped the edge of the sword. They did thing after thing after thing. They conquered kingdoms, they performed acts of righteousness; all of that they did. And we are talking about men like "Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David and Samuel and the prophets, who by faith...." What is faith? Seeing Him who is invisible. Because they saw Him who is invisible, they were able to accomplish all of these things, and bring all of these things which did not exist on the natural realm into the natural realm through that seeing of Him who is invisible.

I hope you are getting this. I hope this makes sense to you and it has an impact, because I believe it is what God is trying to bring us into, to begin seeing Him who is invisible. Not just strive for faith like we have before; you know, let's just build up some faith and go to a service and try to heal somebody. No, when we see Him who is invisible, healings happen. All kinds of things happen. The creation of the world happened out of that invisible realm. And you say, "Well, how do we manifest that which is invisible?" You see Him who is invisible. That is what prophecy is all about. Prophecy is invisible. It is words; you do not see words, even though they did see words at Mount Sinai, but we will not go into that. But we do not see the words, we speak the words, which is the vibration of that which is invisible. And we have the ability to move into this realm through the witness of that which exists. Gosh, I want this to come alive for you.

Verses 13-16.

All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance [they saw them, they saw the Kingdom], and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own. And indeed if they had been thinking of that country from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country.

See, this is where you live. We are desiring this Kingdom, this better country that we know God has made for us. That is what the end of Hebrews 11 says, that God has made a better thing for us. "But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them."

The city we are looking for is prepared. We are strangers, we are sojourners on this earth. We likewise confess that we are looking for a different land. We are looking for a life that is outside of a life just in this realm. We are looking to see the city that God has prepared come and manifest itself in this realm. That is what we are believing for, and it is something that is promised us. But recognize, please, that while they were believing for that city which He had prepared for them as their heavenly calling and desire for a better country, look at what they accomplished in the natural world, and look at what they manifested in the material world through this faith of seeing Him who is invisible. Because they did see the city God had prepared; and yet, He did not see fit to manifest that through them at that time. We will hopefully see that in our day.

But what I want to get across is that in the meantime, there is so much we need to be accomplishing. There is so much we have to do yet through this faith. And I am talking about the faith that is seeing Him who is invisible, because when we observe Him, we will be like Christ: we will do those things we see the Father do. When we see Him, things will manifest into the physical plane and into the physical world. It is no longer a faith that is mostly associated with hope. It is a faith that is born out of seeing, and it manifests that which we behold. We are pressing for this point. Are there promises we may not have in the meantime? Yes, very likely so. But beyond that, we know that the city we are looking for has already

been created. That is what He says in Genesis: He finished those works. That city, just like it says here in Hebrews, He has made that city. It does exist. It is there for us. And I think there are ways we can see it, behold it, and dwell in it now in a very real way, living in two realms at once. But I think what He is looking for is a people who are able to bring into manifestation, by entering into that rest, all that He is looking to see happen in the day and age in which we live. Just as they served God in their generation, we likewise need to serve God in our generation. And a big part of that is manifesting all of His works which we will behold. It talks about the works that He has prepared for us to walk in from the foundations of the world, and I think this is how we do it. We do not hope for it, we actually behold Him who is invisible.

Lord, open the eyes of our hearts that we might see the power that is beaming towards us even now. Give us eyes to see, give us ears to hear, and give us hearts to understand, that we might behold You as Moses did and be able to walk without fear, be able to walk in all of the things that You have for us to do. And how did he do it? He did it by seeing Him who is unseen. Lord, that is our portion, and we believe for it today.

I bless you guys, love you very much. I hope this has been a blessing to you. Listen to it a few more times because there is a lot here, and it needs to really, really open our hearts that we might be able to grasp it, in the name of the Lord.