

Objective: to enable every believer to live the supernatural lifestyle that God intended.

25 February 2020
NLBC a.m.

Persevering To Your Pre-planned Victory

Matt. 15:21-28; Heb. 6:12 NKJV; 2 Thes. 1:4; 3:5; James 1:3,4

Introduction

We live in a world of technology. We press our phones and something across the world, pops on to the screen. We have many, many things that are instant or almost instant. We see miracles of healing in the Bible that are instantaneous. However, we see other great miracles that are not instantaneous, but do happen. We discover that the Great Master Teacher, develops our character by allowing us, to **wait and persevere**, for the promised miracle. Children, in their immaturity, often want “it” and they want it **now!** Wise parents require them to wait for something legitimate, sometimes, until an appointed time. The children thus develop appreciation, at another level, for what they have ‘waited in perseverance for.’

Believing in Jesus and His Provision

Matt. 15:21, 22

This woman was not a Jew and had no covenant or contract with the promises God had made with His own covenant people. Yet, she believed that Jesus **could** and **would** do a miracle for her and her daughter, despite her alleged lack of qualification.

Vs. 22

Her daughter suffered terribly from demon-possession. In our world today, many would simply seek some sort of medical or social

treatment if it was available. They would believe in salvation for their souls giving them eternal life but not necessarily take the salvation of a demon-possessed person to the Great Deliverer. But she recognised who Jesus was: Lord, Son of David....and she cried out to Him. Sometimes God's people may, 'quit before they start,' because they are overwhelmed by the *apparent size* of their need.

Vs. 23

What do you do when you do not hear from Heaven? Many, 'throw in the towel' of resignation and simply continue to suffer. Perhaps, your faith is being tested as was her faith...

Vs.23-24

Jesus answers the disciples. What do you do when Jesus answers others for the same thing that you had asked for? Does your comparison of this 'they get it and I don't-situation,' cause you to quit?

Vs. 24

The mental and spiritual battle of qualification and contradiction. Are you in the mode of: "I must have done something that has cancelled my blessing, my request, my prophecy, my promise....?" My situation doesn't make sense, "God has promised but I don't see it happening...."

Vs. 25

She bowed or knelt. This is what you do when you are absolutely dependent, in faith, on Him. Your posture changes.... She cries out **again**. 1)She cried out to Him. 2)She cried out to the disciples (pastors, elders, other believers). 3)She cried out to Him **again**.

Vs. 26

Jesus says something that could be offensive. Gentiles were referred to by the Jews of Jesus' day, as the 'Gentile dogs.' Phil. 3:2; Rev. 22:15.

Later, the Jews who rejected the New Covenant, were referred to in Phil. 3:2 as the 'dogs,' as they were outside the covenant. They claimed physical circumcision as their 'claim to sanctity,' not the 'circumcision of the heart' by the redeeming work of Christ. Are you someone that cancels out your blessings, your promises, your prophecies, by taking offence? Many do... Because they do not forgive others, they break their own 'covenantal flow of favour and grace,' by severing it through unforgiveness. Matt. 6:15. She took no offence.

Vs. 27

She perseveres in faith—past apparent 'no answer,' apparent rejection, apparent contradiction, and claims what is hers by grace, that is 'unmerited favour!' You are a child of such grace if you are a born-again believer! Rom. 8:32 says, "He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all — how will he not also, along with him, **graciously give us all things?**" 2 Cor. 6:1-2 says, "As God's fellow-workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. For he says, "In the time of my favour I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, **now is the time of God's favour**, now is the day of salvation."

All I require of God's vast treasure of grace, is simply, a 'crumb,' as it is so vast, it can meet all my needs, desires, promises, and calling.

Vs. 28

When Jesus answers us with a miracle, it gives the context of our request. We see the 'bigger picture' which we may have not seen before. This was and is, a 'faith-development-faith-perseverance test.' All of God's people are in both the 'instant-miracle' and 'faith-perseverance' *classroom* of faith-development. Hang in there...God has not 'forgotten you' and God is **faithful**, and you will surely see your breakthrough. Get out of despair, resignation, disqualification, unforgiveness or offence, by choosing to 'resurrect your faith' in the

words of Him who cannot lie. Your faith is powerful and effective, and it will produce, if you simply believe Him and not all the 'other stuff' that the Evil one has hurled into your mind! Jesus said to her, in effect, "I commend you! You have evidenced your **great faith** by your **perseverance!**" Get back to winning today!