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# Faith For The Vision (Living Your Best Life)

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## God's Vision Plan

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July 4, 2021

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***Sermon: God's Vision Plan: Faith For The Vision (Living Your Best Life)***

***Lesson Text***

Habakkuk 2:4 (AV) <sup>4</sup> Behold, his soul *which* is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

Romans 1:17 (AV)<sup>17</sup> For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Galatians 3:11 (AV)<sup>11</sup> But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, *it is* evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

Hebrews 10:38 (AV)<sup>38</sup> Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

***Introduction***

For the last several weeks, we've looked at God's Vision Plan for our lives from the perspective of Habakkuk's experience. We've learned that we must Watch for the Vision, Write the Vision, Run with the Vision, Be Appointed for the Vision, and Tarry for the Vision.

The 4<sup>th</sup> verse of Habakkuk brings us to the key to the fulfillment of Vision; and is perhaps one of the most important scriptures in the bible.

- Habakkuk 2:<sup>4</sup> Behold, his soul *which* is lifted up is not upright in him: **but the just shall live by his faith.**

What we first learn here is that there are two types of people:

- Those who live by their flesh (their soul is lifted up in pride and arrogance, and their life is defined by death and destruction)
- Those who live by their faith (their soul is filled with humility and meekness, and their life is defined by grace and mercy)

And so, the fulfillment of God's Vision boils down to how one chooses to live:

- Deuteronomy 30: <sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

For those who choose to live their life defined by faith, the three epistles of our lesson teach us how:

- The first chapter of Romans teaches us to live by faith through salvation
- The third chapter of Galatians teaches us to live by faith through our walk
- And finally, the 10th chapter of Hebrews teaches us to live by faith through our promise.

***Series and Sermon: God's Vision Plan: Faith For The Vision (Living Your Best Life)***

“Saved by Faith, Walk by Faith, Live by Faith”

### ***I. Saved by Faith (The Power of Salvation)***

Romans 1: <sup>17</sup> For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

In this verse, the emphasis or focus of our faith is on salvation. To live your best life, you must live by faith through the power of salvation.

Romans 1: <sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

The first revelation of vision for anybody must be salvation. Before we can do anything, we must be saved. There is no use in getting curtains for the windows when the house is on fire.

A lot of people want to walk in the vision of being blessed by God, elevated by God, promoted by God, but they have not been saved by God yet.

No matter what comes next in your life, you've got to know that you know that you are saved.

Salvation is not simply saying that you are saved but having the power to know that you are saved.

And why is the power of salvation so important? Because the devil will try to convince you that you are not. That you are condemned, that you are still a sinner, that nothing will ever work out for you, that because you aren't or can't live perfectly.

Hebrews 11: <sup>1</sup> Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Faith is not the ability to see, but the power to believe when you don't see. It is not about when you feel God, but knowing that He's there when you don't. Faith is not about things working out, but waiting on God even when it's not working out.

Job 14: <sup>14</sup> If a man die, shall he live *again*? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.

The power of salvation is having the faith to know that you're saved even when you can't see it, don't feel it, and nothing is working out as a result of it.

Job who had lost everything and got to the point that his friends doubted him and his wife told him to just curse your God and die. And yet he lived by faith!

Job 19: <sup>25</sup> For I know *that* my redeemer liveth, and *that* he shall stand at the latter *day* upon the earth:

I Love the hymn by Jack P. Scholfied:

- "I've found a Friend, who is all to me, His love is ever true; I love to tell how He lifted me And what His grace can do for you."
- "Saved by His power divine, Saved to new life sublime! Life now is sweet and my joy is complete, For I'm saved, saved, saved!"

## ***II. Walk by Faith (The Power of Transformation)***

Galatians 3: <sup>11</sup> But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, *it is* evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

Now in this verse, we see the focus moving to the next level of faith, which is how we walk after we receive our salvation. The next thing you must do to live your best life is you must live by faith through the power of transformation.

Romans 12: <sup>1</sup> I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup> And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Too many Christians get the vision of faith that saves, but miss the vision of faith that walks.

Yes, God loved us so much that He gave His only son and saved us by His grace; but the question is do you love him so much that you are willing to walk by faith?

Romans 6: <sup>1</sup> What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup> God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

You may have been given the vision, but you will never get to it if you don't change your walk.

Galatians 2: <sup>20</sup> I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Galatians 5: <sup>16</sup> *This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

Romans 8: <sup>1</sup> *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 5: <sup>7</sup> (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

To walk into your vision, to walk into your destiny, to walk into your healing, to walk into your deliverance, to walk into your promise, to walk into your blessing you must Walk by Faith!

“Walk with me, Lord, Walk with me. Walk with me, Lord, Walk with me. While I'm on this tedious journey. I need You, Jesus, to walk with me.”

## ***III. Live by Faith (The Power of Promise)***

Hebrews 10:38 (AV)<sup>38</sup> Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Living your best life is ...

- Living By Faith Through The Power of Salvation (Know that You are Saved)
- Living By Faith Through The Power of Transformation (Act like You are Saved)

- And finally Living by Faith Through The Power of Abundance (Live like You are Saved)

Living by faith is knowing that Jesus gave us a promise and that he will deliver that promise.

Hebrews 10: <sup>36</sup> For ye have need of patience, that, **after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.** <sup>37</sup> For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.

2 Corinthians 1: <sup>20</sup> For all the promises of God in him *are* yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

The enemy wants us to draw back into death, fall back into death, go back to living in death.

- Ephesians 2: <sup>2</sup> Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:
- 1 John 2: <sup>16</sup> For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.
- 1 John 2: <sup>17</sup> And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

### **But God Promised Us Life!**

John 10: <sup>10</sup> **The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.**

Ezekiel 16: <sup>6</sup> And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thine own blood, I said unto thee *when thou wast* in thy blood, Live; yea, I said unto thee *when thou wast* in thy blood, Live.

John 1: <sup>4</sup> In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

Acts 17: <sup>28</sup> For in him we live, and move, and have our being; ...

Psalms 118: <sup>17</sup> I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

Live Your Best Life By Faith:

- Live Your **Blessed Life** By Faith: Proverbs 10: <sup>22</sup> The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.
- Live Your **New Life** By Faith: Romans 6: <sup>4</sup> ... as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
- Live Your **Glorious Life** By Faith: Romans 8: <sup>18</sup> For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.
- Live Your **Everlasting Life** By Faith Everlasting Life: Matthew 19: <sup>29</sup> And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.  
<sup>30</sup> But many *that are* first shall be last; and the last *shall be* first.

**Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: Faith For The Vision (Living Your Best Life))**

**Lesson Text**

- Habakkuk 2:4, Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, Hebrews 10:38

**Sermon Outline (Notes)**

**I. *Saved by Faith (The Power of Salvation)***

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**II. *Walk by Faith (The Power of Transformation)***

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**III. *Live by Faith (The Power of Promise)***

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**Questions (What was your main takeaway from Sunday's Sermon?)**

**I. Getting to Know "Me"**

1. Brain teaser: You have committed an unpardonable sin and you have to choose your punishment from one of three rooms: 1) A room full of raging fires 2) A room full of assassins with swords 3) A room full of lions that haven't eaten in three years. Which would you choose? (One room is safer than the others.)
2. Knowing what you know now, what is one piece of advice you would give to your younger self?

**II. Into the Bible**

1. Ephesians 6:16 tells us to take the "shield of faith" to defend ourselves against the "fiery darts of the wicked." What are the fiery darts that we encounter? How does faith extinguish them? What example from the Bible can you give that shows this principle in action?
2. Read 1 John 5:4, John 16:33, and Hebrews 11:33-34. Our faith not only defends, but also conquers so that we can have salvation, transformation and the abundant life Jesus promised. What is it about our faith that has set us up to have the victory in life?

**III. Life Application**

1. You may be in a situation where it seems it is taking a very long time for God's promises to manifest in your life. What action or strategy can you take to focus on God's abundance while you are waiting?
2. According to Rom 12:1-2, we are transformed by the renewing of our minds. One area that can be the biggest challenge in transformation is in our relationships. How can you use your main takeaway from the sermon to walk by faith in your relationships with your family, your co-workers, and your church members?