

March 7th, Session III

Entering His rest: Against all hope continue to believe.

This teaching was given by Carlo Ma'ayeh in the Bible School Seminar in Ambon, Indonesia.



Prayer:

Thank you, Father, for your transforming power. Continue your work Lord by the power of your Holy Spirit. We honour you Lord. We appreciate you Holy Spirit. Thank you for the change into the image of Christ from glory to glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Precious saints, **it's all about faith. Faith in what God says. Not how I feel, not how I think, not what I see, not what I hear. It depends on the word of God.**

If what I see conforms to the Word of God, I say: Amen! If what I hear is according to the Word of God, I say: Amen! If I think according to the Word of God, I say: Amen!

But whenever there is anything contrary to the Word of God, I don't accept it, I reject it. I start praying about it, I start to prophesy for God to change it. I pray for everything to conform to His Word, to His will. I don't accept the status quo. I don't believe in: 'Let be' 'Let be', Let things be as they are.

God wants to transform us, and through us to transform the world. Is God able? Amen!

I want you to open to Paul's letter to the Hebrews please, chapter 3 from verse 12 to 19,

*Heb 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an **evil heart of unbelief**, in departing from the living God.*

*13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be **hardened through the deceitfulness of sin**.*

14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end;

15 While it is said, Today if you will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.

16 For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.

17 But with whom was he grieved forty years? Was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness?

*18 And to whom swore he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not?
19 So we see that they could not enter in **because of unbelief.***

And please continue reading till verse 3 of chapter 4 of Hebrews,

***Heb 4:1** Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of **entering into his rest**, any of you should seem to come short of it.*

*2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but **the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.***

*3 **For we which have believed do enter into rest**, as he said: As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.*

And verse 6 of chapter 4 also,

Heb 4:6** Seeing therefore it remains that some must enter therein, and **they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:

To summarize all that we have learnt the last few days in the Seminar:

- To know the power of God to save us to the uttermost;
- The power of His deliverance and The power of His sanctification. The power of His transformation to His image from glory to glory;
- How to crucify the flesh with the affections and lusts, to put to death the works of the flesh;
- To deny ourselves to carry the cross daily and follow Jesus;
- To walk in love, continually loving and forgiving others;
- How to get control of our minds, not by will power, but the power of God using His powerful weapons;
- To pull down in Jesus' name the strongholds in our minds. In Jesus' name I cast down the imaginations, the arguments, the reasonings, logic, every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God.
- To continually take into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.
- To have the mind of Christ at all times.
- To start believing what God says about us, what he wants to make of us, and believe Him that He can do it. Trust Him. It does not depend on us trying to work it, it depends on us continually to believe in Him; and as we continue to believe in Him he works in us.

And now, He warns in verse 12 of chapter 3 of Hebrews,

*Heb 3:12 Take heed, (pay attention) brethren, lest there be in any of you **an evil heart of unbelief**, in departing from the living God.*

The apostle Paul warns about having an **evil heart of unbelief**. Because in Romans we read that the heart believes for righteousness and the mouth confesses for salvation. It is important that we continue to believe in our hearts. We repent of, and renounce unbelief. So different times when you read the Word of God, even if you don't understand it right away, pray:

Father, I don't understand it yet, but because you said it, I choose to believe it. And because I believe it I confess it Lord. I allow you to renew my mind Lord. I surrender to the work of the Holy Spirit. I bring every thought captive to the obedience of Christ. Forgive me for all the times of unbelief. I choose to believe Lord, in Jesus' holy name.

And look at verse 13,

*Heb 3:13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called today; lest any of you be **hardened through the deceitfulness of sin***

We need to continue to exhort one another, encourage one another. Exhort one another in the Word of God, exhort one another in the teachings you have received.

And the Bible says in verse 14,

*Heb 3:14 For we are made partakers of Christ, **if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end;***

We choose to continue to believe the Word of God even if it sounds impossible. Even if our circumstances or our situations are contrary. We continue to believe the Word of God. We continue to believe and confess the Word of God.

When I married my wife, Paula, few months in the beginning of our marriage's life; like we were married in May and around August or September, the Lord allowed hard circumstances to come against us. No more offerings came to us and to the ministry. We didn't have any more money for food. And I made a covenant with God, me and my wife, that we ask no body for money. This ministry is for love, Jesus paid for it with His blood. And therefore whatever we need, we only ask the Father. And the Father provides for us. How? We don't know, but we don't ask people for money.

Even my earthly dad different times asked: do you need anything? And I used to tell him: Dad, even if I don't have anything to eat, I cannot ask you, because of my covenant with God. If you have in your heart to give an offering, it's between you and God. But I will not ask you.

The Lord allowed difficult times and situations that we did not have money to eat. Exactly a period of forty days. We had some flour and with water we knead it and made small pieces of bread. So, for two

days we ate of those two pieces of bread and one day we ate nothing. Another two days we ate of those two pieces of bread and then another day we ate nothing.

This process continued for forty days. So, the devil attacked us in our minds: *where is your God? God is a liar, where are the promises of God? It is written the Lord is my shepherd I shall not want. The Bible says that the lions lack and the young lions suffer hunger but those who seek the Lord won't lack any good thing. So where are the promises of God?*

For forty days we were tormented by the enemy in our minds. So the facts and the situations were that we had no food. But we chose to continue to believe the Word of God. We chose to continue to confess the Word of God. We chose to **renounce all unbelief and against all hope in hope continued to believe** (*Rom. 4:18*) **because God is not a liar!**

But the devil said: look at your circumstances! I said I don't care about the circumstances I choose to continue to believe the Word of God and confess the Word of God. I continue to pray and believe God can change everything. I will refuse to ask people for money even if we didn't have anything to eat.

And we became very thin even - and excuse me for sharing this - but even my pants would fall down without me unbuttoning them. And the devil said: Look at your wife, your bride, she is so thin. What are you doing to her? But we chose to continue to believe in God and the promises of God. It is written the Lord is my shepherd I shall not want. It is written the lions lack and the young lions suffer hunger, but we who seek the Lord, shall not lack any good thing. (*Psa. 34:10; 23:1*)

We refused to agree with what we saw. We refused to agree with what we felt. We refused to agree with the thought the devil tried to put. We chose to continue to agree with the Word of God; to believe and confess the Word of God.

The Lord allowed the testing, to see if we just confess the Word of God like lip service or just mental agreement. To see if we only agree when we are good and well, or if we continue to believe even when it is hard. To continue to believe, when what we see is impossible.

But God is true, God is not a liar. His words are true, his promises are true, and they are all yes and amen in Christ.

So, when we went to the fire and we passed this cross, we died to ourselves and the power of resurrection came and God opened His heavens and poured His blessings upon us.

The devil is a liar. Now remember when God saved Israel from Egypt. Who took Israel to the bitter waters of Mara? Did the devil do that? No.

- **The Lord**

God took Israel to the bitter waters of Mara, not the devil. But what did the people of God do? Did they continue to believe God? No! They murmured.

Who took the people of Israel to the place of hunger where there was no food? The devil? No! God did. God took them to the place of hunger. Did they continue to believe? Or did they choose unbelief and murmuring?

God allows us to go through certain circumstances; he takes us into the wilderness, Why?

Open to the book of Deuteronomy chapter 8 verses 2 and 3,

Deu 8:2 *And you shall remember all the way which the LORD your God led you these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, and to prove you, to know what was in your heart, whether thou wouldst keep his commandments, or no.*

3 *And he humbled you, and suffered you to hunger, and fed you with manna, which you knew not, neither did your fathers know; that he might make you know that man does not live by bread only, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.*

God is telling His people to remember the way He led them in the wilderness. Why does the Lord allow the trials, temptations in the wilderness?

Number one: **To humble you.** God has to humble us, to be able to be gracious to us. Because God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble (*1 Peter 5:5*) *... , and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.* And sadly pride is very strong in man, in humanity. So God has to break this pride, he has to humble us, because His grace is for the humble.

And the second thing that it says is: **To prove you, to know what is in your heart.** Is there “continue to believe” or “continue in unbelief”? Will you continue to keep his commandments, to obey or not? It’s easy to keep the commandments and to obey God when things are smooth and nice. But will you continue to believe when the times are hard and painful?

The Lord allows the trials. And you see the purpose of God when you go to fiery trials, when you go through painful working of the cross inside you. Even though you don’t understand what is happening, or you don’t see the promises of God fulfilled yet, I encourage you and exhort you to continue to believe (against all hope, in hope continue to believe! *Rom 4:18* *Who against hope believed in hope,*). Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God.

1Pe 5:6 *Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:*

Speak and say:

Lord I don't understand but I choose to believe, I choose to humble myself under your mighty hand O God. I choose to trust you. Maybe now I don't see the performance of your words but I continue to believe and confess your Word and you will perform your Word. In your time Lord you will perform your Word. I choose to believe Lord.

We go back to the letter to the Hebrews chapter 3 verse 19,

Heb 3:19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

Why they could not enter the rest of God? Because of unbelief.

Unbelief stops you from entering the rest of God.

Unbelief stops you from receiving from God.

Look in James chapter 1 verses 6 to 8,

James 1:6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavers is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

So, when you ask something of God ask with faith. When you believe the Word of God don't allow the circumstances to dictate to you and cause you to waver and be double minded. Let the Word of God dictate to you. No matter what you see contrary to the word of God, no matter what you hear contrary to the Word of God, no matter what you experience contrary to the Word of God.

Please don't waver, don't allow unbelief. If you start wavering and start allowing unbelief, quickly repent and ask God to forgive you and declare with your mouth: Father I choose to believe.

Because the devil wants to stop you from believing the Word of God; and the way He can stop you, is by making you waver, to be double minded. Because the Word of God says: He who wavers receives nothing from God. Amen precious saints?

Are you receiving revelation today?

We go back to Hebrews chapter 4 verse 1,

Hebrews 4:1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.

Heb 4:2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

We must believe, when we hear the Word of God. We choose to believe it. If we don't believe it we lose, like the people of Israel in the wilderness. And in verse 3 we read,

Heb 4:3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

Repeat after me:

I'm a believer, I'm not a doubter. I'm a believer; I love the Word of God. I believe the Word of God I receive it with faith. And because I'm a believer I enter into His rest. I believe that I am made the

righteousness of God in Christ, for it is written: God made Him to be sin for me, He who did not know sin, that I should be made the righteousness of God in Christ. Amen.

Are you a believer?

HalleluYah! I declare you more than conquerors through Him who loves us!

Let's stand to pray:

Father, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ I take authority over any unbelief in any heart. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ I curse any root of unbelief it shall not prosper in any one, it shall not live, it shall not produce any fruit in any one. I command any unbelief be uprooted from every heart and be planted in the sea, in Jesus' holy name.

I impart to your children to every person here, Father God, the gift of faith. Lord, faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God, and everyone here heard the Word of God and believed the Word of God, so let the Word be profitable in everyone of them. I call forth your Word to prosper in every heart of them. I call forth your Word to take deep root in every one of them Lord. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ I call forth your Word to break forth Lord and produce fruit in ever one, abundant fruit, Father, for the glory of your name in Jesus' name. I call forth fruitfulness in everyone, fruitfulness through everyone in Jesus' holy name.

I prophesy over everyone here you are fruitful for the kingdom of God. The Lord Jesus ordained you to be fruitful, that your fruit should last in Jesus' holy name. I prophesy the devil cannot steal, nor kill, nor destroy what God has been doing and does in everyone here. For God what you did, what you started in everyone you are faithful to complete it.

So, I commend to you Father, every person here and the works of your hands. Give the increase to your works, bring it to completion, perfect your work Lord. For the work is yours, the belief is ours, we trust you, Lord, to do your perfect work in us; to change us, to conform us to the image of your Son Jesus Christ. Continue the transforming process, form glory to glory, by the power of your Holy Spirit.

Seal all with the blood of Christ; cover your children and every one of us with the blood of Christ and with your glory. Keep us as the apple of your eyes. Be a wall of fire around everyone of us and be glory in the midst of everyone of us; that your name be hallowed, your kingdom be established and manifest, your will be done in us and through us, as well as for us, in earth as in heaven. And we give you the glory, honour, praise and thanksgivings heavenly Father, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever, Amen.

www.vesselsofhonorforJesus.org