



Sermon Notes

Lazarus Series 8 – The Problem With Unbelief February 20, 2022

If we want to see breakthrough in our lives, we must stop doubting and believe!

You can't believe if you have doubt.

It's one thing to ask Jesus for a miracle – it's another thing to believe He can and will do it.

John 11:1-15

¹ Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, ⁷ and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

⁸ "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?"

⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. ¹⁰ It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light."

¹¹ After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

¹² His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." ¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

John 11:25, 40-42

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

Unbelief is a barrier preventing us from our breakthrough!

Unbelief makes our hearts callous.



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Isaiah 6:9-10

⁹ He said, "Go and tell this people:
"Be ever hearing, but never understanding;
be ever seeing, but never perceiving."
¹⁰ Make the heart of this people calloused;
make their ears dull
and close their eyes.
Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts,
and turn and be healed."

Callous: Hardened or thickened. Numb. Insensitive.

Perhaps it started with unbelief.

Unbelief is a mindset that started with a thought.

We miss the things of God because unbelief has numbed us.

Proverbs 28:14

¹⁴ Blessed is the one who fears the LORD always,
but whoever hardens his heart will fall into calamity.

Hebrews 3:15

¹⁵ As has just been said:
"Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts
as you did in the rebellion."

A mindset that has taken root cannot be changed by a mere resolution.

Unbelief is a stronghold!

We don't fight like the world.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

³ For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴ The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵ We



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demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Unbelief is an argument. It argues that God is not all He says He is.

Unbelief is a pretension. It claims to be a powerful truth, when in actuality, it is a mindset seeded and fertilized by negative thoughts.

Unbelief exalts itself against the knowledge of God!

To take each thought captive is to go to the root of unbelief!

One of the most practical ways to take thoughts captive to Christ is to speak the name of Jesus.

There is power in the name of Jesus.

Acts 3:6

⁶ Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.”

There is authority in the name of Jesus.

Philippians 2:9-11

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

When we say “Jesus”, it is an act of repentance.

When we say “Jesus”, we are aligning our words and thoughts with His.

When we say “Jesus”, we are saying “Jesus help me!”

Acts 4:12

¹² Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”



THE RAISING OF LAZARUS

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