

Calling Forth Those Things That Be Not As Though They Are ***God's Plan to Bring to Pass the Promises of God***

As we studied in the last chapter, the covenant that man has with God contains both duties and obligations as well as rights and privileges. As we concluded that chapter we said there is no greater privilege than that of access to the presence of God. It is an honor to be in his presence, and we cannot be in his presence and not be transformed by it. The greatest gift of all, then, is the presence of God and our access to him. It was God's desire that we know his presence, but also that we have access to all of the other exceeding great and precious promises he gave us that we could be partakers of the divine nature. To that end he provided a tool for use in obtaining those promises, and that tool was *the right to call forth those things that be not as though they are.*

Calling forth those things that be not as though they are is a key element of spiritual law. The knowledge of spiritual law and the authority to use it was one of God's greatest and most important gifts to his covenant people. **Hebrews 8:8-10**....*Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah; Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people.* God gave this to man so he could have dominion and authority over the created order and dominate the law of sin and death. This required the use of certain spiritual weapons or tools, and the right to call forth those things that be not as though they are is one of the most powerful.

The use of the expression *call forth those things that be not as though they were* is not introduced until **Rom 4:17** (*As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations, before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were* where the writer describes how God speaks things into reality, but operation of the principle is seen as early as **Gen 1:3** *And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.* The operation of this principle is clearly seen throughout **Genesis 1**, where God establishes the created order and defines it. Note particularly **Gen 1:26-28** *And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful, and multiply, and replentish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.* **Gen 1:31** *And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.*

Gen 2:7 *And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. When God breathed the breath of life into Adam he called forth that thing that be not as though it were, and it became.* This is speaking about both the creation of Adam and prophetically of the new creation of you and I. We were dead in our sins and trespasses until God breathed the breath of life into us. We just had to give him permission first. We did that when we believed in our hearts and confessed with our mouths that Jesus was Lord. **Rom 10:9,10** *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.* This is the process of *calling forth those things that be not as though they are*, and every person who ever got saved used the process. It is how the promises of God are brought forth into reality. I called myself healed before I was, I called myself prospered before I was, I called myself delivered from the bondage of sin before I was, and so on.

Since Adam was to minister for God and on behalf of God to the earth, God had to teach Adam this process. **Gen 2:19,20** *And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air, and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.* Adam begins to do over his area of dominion what God did over the created order.

It is necessary to make an insertion here to explain this process further. **John 1:1** *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him (by the Word): and without him (without the Word) was not anything made that was made.* We see here that the Word of God must be preexistent of all things, it must be the composition of all things, and it must be the sustaining force of life. That is essentially **Col 1:16-17** *For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers; all things were created by him, and for him: and he is before all things, and by him all things consist.* Moreover, the Word of God had to contain the faith of God in order to come to pass, so *the Word of God must necessarily contain faith*. **Rom 10:17** *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

Since Adam was created by the word of God, he necessarily contained both the word of God and the faith of God in full measure. You and I got those in a measure when we were made the righteousness of God in Christ. With these things in mind, look at **Rom 10:6...** *But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:) Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead:) But what saith it? The Word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith which we preach.* So righteousness then represents the deposit of God that was made into you when you, *by faith and by confession*, accepted Jesus Christ as Lord of your life. The Word was deposited in you as well (see **Heb 8:8-10** above) and you got a deposit of the faith of God. **Rom 12:3** *For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of*

faith. The righteousness which is of faith is in your heart, and it is to be in your mouth, and it is how you call forth those things that be not as though they are. You were given the faith necessary to do this. You don't have to rise to a higher level to get it, nor descend to a lower level, it is already in your heart and it is to be in your mouth. As you use the Word of God to call forth those things that be not as though they are, faith is released and mixed with the promises of God in order to bring them to pass. Faith has to be involved in this process. **Heb 11:6**...*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

There are other spiritual laws that are involved with and interact with this principle that are essential to know. **Pr 18: 21** *Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.* **Gal 6:7-8** *Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.* **Mark 4:14** *The sower soweth the word.* **Joshua 1:8** *This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.*

These are some of the tools we use to dominate the law of sin and death, and they work in conjunction with calling forth those things that be not as though they are. To dominate is not to change the law, it is to use the law as it is to your advantage. We do not have the right to change spiritual law nor the laws of the created order, but we were given dominion over them so that we get spiritual law *and the law of the created order* to work for us and not against us. It is fundamental that in order to possess the promises of God I have to get spiritual law working for me and not against me. To *call* means to summon or to make a demand on something to invoke a change. I have a covenant privilege to change the operation of spiritual forces by calling forth those things which be not as though they are, and I can use that privilege to dominate the law of sin and death. I use the process of sowing in the spirit realm with words, since death and life is in the power of the tongue. I desire to come into agreement with God and his word on all things so the spirit of life in Christ Jesus is operating in me.

Since these are spiritual laws we are speaking of, they will work in a measure for any one. The strategy of satan is to get spiritual law working against you and have you *not even know* it is working against you. To that end God has given us the Holy Spirit on the inside of us as our helper, comforter and action agent of God's promises, and we have the mediator and apostle and high priest over our profession in heaven in Christ Jesus to help bring to pass the promises of God. Faith is my primary weapon and it is released by speaking the word of God in and over situations as I call forth those things that be not as though they are.

Gen 14:20 *and blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand.* This was a covenant promise made to Abraham that God would deliver his enemies into his hand. That word was given to Abraham for the defeat of both enemies he was able to see and enemies he could not see because they were spirits. Enemies of the spirit realm cannot be defeated with natural weapons. They will require spiritual weapons to defeat them. **2 Cor 10:3-6** *For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war*

after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds;) Casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. **Gal 3:29** And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

The test of Abraham is **Gen 22:1-14** And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt (test) Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: And he said, Behold, here I am. And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him. Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you. And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together. And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, here am I my son. And he said, behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and he took the knife to slay his son. And the angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said here am I. And he said, lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast now withheld thy son, thine only son, from me. And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh: as it is said to this day, in the mount of the Lord it shall be seen.

Rom 4:13-24 gives us the spiritual accounting of this test of Abraham's faith. For the promise that he would be heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect. Because the law worketh wrath; for where no law is, there is no transgression. Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all. (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things that be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about a hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that what he had promised, he was able also to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness. Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it

was imputed to him; but for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead: And according to **Gal 3:29** quoted above, we are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise.

Let's look at the process. It is not enough for God to have done it for Abraham, I need him to do it for me. If they really are exceeding great and precious promises then they have to work for me. The bible is a series of word pictures that demonstrates what God did for his covenant people so I can believe that 1. He *can* do it for me, and 2. He *will* do it for me. Look at the process:

1. There was a word spoken. God spoke it.
2. There was a word received. Abraham received it.
3. There was a word believed. Abraham believed it. He spoke it, he meditated it, and he became fully persuaded that God *was able* to perform his word.
4. He stood in faith, not wavering, until he was fully persuaded that God *would do* what he promised.
5. He acted on his faith and God responded with fulfillment of the promise.

Note what is critical to the process. It is not enough to believe and be fully persuaded that God is able to do what he promised, I have to be fully persuaded that he **will do what he promised.** Once again, this is **critical** to the process. The manifestation of the promises of God in my life are always going to face demonic opposition from spiritual enemies. If I am convinced that God is able but am not sure he is willing, I will always be measuring how long I stand for the promise instead of being fully persuaded, not wavering, standing as long as it takes to see the promise come to pass. Some promises will take longer than others to come to pass and some will face greater opposition from spiritual enemies, but God gave them because he wanted us to have them and I want everything God wanted me to have.

This is the Gospel, the Good News. This is how you get transformed from who you used to be to who you want to be. This is a key to the treasure room.