

HUMBLING OURSELVES TO LIVE BY THE WORD GOD SPEAKS TO US

July – 2011 – ekb

God spoke to Israel and said, that He had led them through 40 years in the wilderness **to humble them, so that they might know that man does not live by bread alone, but by every Word that comes out of the mouth of the Lord.** *Deuteronomy 8:2,3.*

Jesus repeated this. *Matthew 4:4, Luke 4:4. This is how Jesus lived. John 5:19,20,30, (John 6:38), 8:26, 28,38, 12:49, 14:10. This is how Jesus wills us to live. John 20:21.*

In the New Testament **we are told to humble ourselves** under the mighty hand of God. *1Peter 5:6.*

We are told to put on the apron of humility. *1Peter 5:5.*

This is because God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble. *1Peter 5:5.*

By the indwelling Holy Spirit, *John 14:17*, God speaks to us. *John 14:26, 1John 2:27.*

His Words to us are Spirit and Life. *John 6:63.* He speaks to lead us into abundant life. *John 10:10, John 6:35.* He speaks to us to bring us into the fullness and fulfilment of God's purposes for us.

When God speaks to us, He is imparting faith to us. *Romans 10:17.*

We are to live and walk by faith and not by sight. *2Corinthians 5:7.*

When God speaks to us, He is telling us what He has given to us, even though we do not see it appearing at that moment. *Hebrews 11:1.* He said to Abraham, "I have made you a Father of many nations", but at that moment, Abraham had no children, (apart from Ishmael). *Romans 4:17, Genesis 17:1-18.*

God calls those things that be not as though they were. *Romans 4:17.*

God, who is outside of time, can see them, but we cannot. **God sees the end from the beginning.** *Isaiah 46:10.*

Now Abraham did not stagger at the promise of God through unbelief but was strong in faith giving glory to God. *Romans 4:20. Even though Abraham saw no evidence of what God said, He believed what God said.*

Abraham believed God and what He said. Abraham did not reject what God had said because of what he could see with his own eyes. Abraham's belief was accounted to him for righteousness. *Romans 4:3.*

Abraham was fully persuaded that, what God had promised, He was able also to perform. *Romans 4:21.*

The Scripture says, "The just/righteous shall live by faith." *Romans 1:17.* (that is, by believing and speaking, (*2 Corinthians 4:13*), what God has said.)

When we cannot see with our own eyes what God has said to us, we have to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God to believe and proclaim what He has said. *Deuteronomy 8:2,3, 1Peter 5:6, Matthew 18:3,4.*

To reject what God says, because we cannot see it with our own eyes is pride. We are lifting up our own ideas against God. It is called unbelief, doubt. *1John 5:10* says it is to make God a liar.

In the mid 1970s, God called us to give up our means of earning a living, to go into Northland, help in establishing churches and leaders, teach and preach the Word, and visit widely in the Body of Christ. God told us that He would supply all our needs. *Philippians 4:19.* We had four children and all the normal expenses of living and running a home and family. There was a lot of opposition from other family members who thought we were being extremely foolish. "How would we be able to feed and clothe the family and pay all the bills?" **In this situation we had to humble ourselves to the Word of God and do what God had told us to do, despite all the criticism and turmoil around us. It was very hard.** In the early years Dorothy stayed at home with the children while I travelled through the North. As the children matured and were able to stay at home on their own, Dorothy and I would travel together some of the time, or else one of the children would travel with me. **The main point is that we had to humble ourselves to the Word God had spoken. We had to believe it and do it. We had to be under the Word in submission.**

God is outside of time, and lives in the eternal present. *Exodus 3:14, Isaiah 46:10.* God sees the end from the beginning.

Jesus said, "Except you be converted and **become as a little child**, you shall not enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Whoever **humbles himself as this little child**, the same is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven" *Matthew 18:3,4.*

As we seek the Lord and read His Word, the Holy Spirit speaks to us. He may speak by vision, dream, rhema Scripture, prophecy, inner witness or some other way. As we humble ourselves to His Word, to believe, speak and obey it, we are blessed by the Lord and brought into the fullness of His way and purposes.