

# THE VISION

## INTRO

Whenever God wants to do something and build something to reach people, He starts with vision. Vision is the starting point to all our accomplishment and all our plans. We are here on earth to accomplish something as individuals and as a church. We have a vision and this vision is our future. Without a vision, we have no future.

### I. What Is Vision Proverbs 29:18; Habakkuk 2:2, 3; Matthew 16:17, 18.

- A. Vision is like a **purpose** (original intent) of why something exists. It is the **reason** for something's existence. In the local church, it is what a leader and congregation perceives by the Holy Spirit as to God's purpose for them. It is the "why" behind their existence and all they do.
- B. Vision is the **blueprint, picture, or pattern** of something that will exist. It gives us the ability to see something that will exist in the future. It creates spiritual momentum and spiritual advancement to the work of God.
  - 1. Jesus said He would build His Church Matthew 16:18; and whatever God builds, it is according to a blueprint, picture, and pattern.
  - 2. When God told Moses to build the Tabernacle, He said to do it according to the pattern (example, model, impression, figure, fashion, print) Hebrews 8:5; Exodus 25:1, 9.
  - 3. David's tabernacle was by a pattern 1 Chronicles 28:12.
  - 4. Like a **picture on a puzzle box**, it shows the final picture and future state to work toward and move toward.
- C. Vision is like a "**marquee**" on a bus that spells out a direction and destination. It creates spiritual momentum and spiritual advancement to the work of God that shapes future destiny.
  - 1. Vision shaped the future/destiny of Noah. Once he heard instruction, he had to build the ark.
  - 2. Vision shaped the future/destiny of Abraham. Once he perceived it, he had to leave and journey by faith.
  - 3. Vision shaped the future/destiny of Moses. Once he had it, he had to lead God's people.
  - 4. Vision shaped the future/destiny of Nehemiah. Once he heard it, he had to rebuild Jerusalem.
- D. Vision is a **revelation** of what to do, a **foundation** of what to build upon, a **motivation** that inspires, excites, and ignites.
  - 1. Vision - (Hebrew) Prophetic vision that corrects, directs.
  - 2. Vision - (Greek: optasia) To see; a coming into view. Horama - That which is seen; a spectacle; a sight.
  - 3. Revelation - (Greek) To uncover, unveil, something is presented to the senses, sight, or hearing.
  - 4. Perish - (Hebrew) Run wild, become lazy, unproductive, cast off restraint.
- E. Vision points the direction and also sets the boundaries and limits. Out of vision comes a goal (target/direction) and then a plan or strategy to attain the goal must be made.

### II. How Do Visions Come to Pass?

- A. Vision comes out of the purposes stated in God's Word, is created in us by God's Spirit, and becomes a goal toward which He moves us. It gives our actions purpose rather than being meaningless activity. We need to do all that is in God's heart, and what is in God's heart is on the pages of the Bible Isaiah 55:8-11.
- B. God communicates His vision to the heart of a person being raised up in leadership Exodus 25:1, 2.
- C. It needs to be written down and communicated in printed form, but mainly needs to be

written, engraved, and branded with the fire of the Holy Spirit on people's hearts  
Habakkuk 2:2, 3.

- D. It takes **people** to run with the vision. It takes more than a man with a vision. It is not to be a man's vision, but God's vision, a Heavenly vision, through a man to a people who will run with it and be obedient to it Acts 26:19. It has a future fulfillment Habakkuk 2:2, 3; for example, Joshua 6:1-20, what God said did not become a reality until someone obeyed. Vision takes people and time. Vision takes obedience in order to become a reality.
- E. Any/every vision can be limited.
  - 1. By the leadership leading— e.g., does not really have it or have it and stray off course.
  - 2. By the congregation in their attitude, response, and commitment.
  - 3. By satanic attack, strongholds, sidetracking, and distracting Nehemiah 6:2, 3.

### III. How Do You Know if You Have the Vision? When You Have It:

- A. You **understand** and **see** things others do not see, which excites, ignites, motivates, and inspires. People who see walk differently from those who do not.
- B. You **fight** to make it happen. You become a warrior for the vision. You are actively participating, functioning, running with it; and resisting all hindrances, overcoming all obstacles, killing all the giants that stand in the way.
- C. You become an **owner** or like a proprietor. It is "your" church. It is God's vision to you.
  - 1. You care about the church, its ministries, its members, and its mission like it was your own.
  - 2. You know when it is open for business.
  - 3. Your time, talent, treasures are no longer yours because you are invested.
  - 4. The owners are the most invested and willing to sacrifice, spend, and be spent.
- D. You are **changing** and have ongoing change and development in your life.
  - 1. The vision is ongoing and developing.
  - 2. You are running, changing, and developing with the vision.
  - 3. At times it forces you to face things you might at other times delay dealing with because you cannot run with the vision with it in your life.

### IV. Our Church's Vision.

- A. When the Lord spoke to my heart to start our church, I responded by asking, "Lord give me Your vision of a local church," and from that the Lord showed me some basic things from portions of Scripture.
- B. An overall phrase that describes it is, "A harvesting church that reaps and keeps the last day's harvest."
- C. The kind of church that Jesus builds is a:
  - 1. **A worshipping church.**  
Our first ministry as Believer-priests is to minister to the Lord. All true life, ministry and work flow from our ministry to the Lord as worshippers; therefore, we minister to the Lord through worship, praise, music, and song 2 Chronicles 5:11-14.
  - 2. **A praying church.**  
The church is to have a ministry in prayer as well as an individual's prayer life. The church, both individually and corporately, should be a house of prayer for all people Isaiah 56:7; Luke 18:1; Hebrews 3:6; 1 Timothy 2:1, 2.
  - 3. **A supernatural church.**  
God has called us to be a supernatural people, who have a supernatural touch from God on our lives, so we contend for that supernatural element in all we do Isaiah 8:18; 1 Corinthians 2:4, 5; 12:1-11.

4. **A fellowship church.**  
We have a ministry to one another in fellowship and relationship that goes beyond attendance. We are told throughout God's Word of what we are to do "one to another" John 13:34, 35; Romans 12:10; 1 Corinthians 16:15.
5. **A discipleship church.**  
We are to become established as true disciples of Jesus Christ in obedience to the teachings of the Scripture and to embrace the full counsel of God's Word Matthew 28:19, 20; Ephesians 4:12-15; 2 Timothy 3:16, 17.
6. **A family church.**  
We also feel a mission to minister to the whole family of God, of all ages, to minister not just to their spiritual well being, but also to bring wholeness to all areas of their lives 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Ephesians 3:14-19.
7. **A serving/ministering church.**  
The Bible reveals the Church is a Body made up of many members who have gifts, a place and a function. We encourage our members to find their place in the work of that vision—helping, serving and supporting Romans 12:4-6; 1 Corinthians 12:18, 28; Ephesians 4:16.
8. **A training church.**  
The local church is to be a place for the training, equipping, and development of ministers and ministries, raising up godly leaders 2 Timothy 2:2.
9. **An evangelistic church.**  
We believe our focus and thrust of our church should be outward bound, evangelizing our world, seeking to reach those who are not yet with us, in obedience to the Great Commission Jesus gave us Mark 16:15; John 17:23; Acts 1:8.
10. **A missions church.**  
That includes being involved in missions both locally and beyond the boundaries of our city, State, and our nation Romans 10:15; 15:20. It involves ministering to the needy, poor, shut-in, elderly, sick, and to reach out to those in prison Matthew 25:35, 36, 40.