

How to See God Move in Your life

Opening text: Deuteronomy 11:1-3; 7-9

Context: Moses is preparing God's people to enter the land. Occupying the land of the promise was going to require strength and courage. Moses had to remind them that they had already seen what God could do, in the past. They had already experienced the reality of God in signs and wonders when they left Egypt. Their eyes had seen God at work. Nobody told them - they saw, they had an experience. Who can argue with a real encounter with God?

I

Deuteronomy 11:7: *"But your eyes have seen every great act of the Lord which He did"*

What an amazing and unique statement this is, that the people that this scripture refers to, saw with their physical eyes every great act of the Lord. They saw everything that there was to see of God, up to that point.

I don't know the level of your experience with God but to have seen every great act of the Lord is powerful. I haven't seen yet every great act of God, have you?

I love this passage. It clearly reveals 3 things:

1. That God acts

Isaiah 64:4 – *For since the beginning of the world men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, nor has the eye seen any God besides You, Who **acts** for the one who waits for Him.*

2. The types of acts God does – that they are great

3. That we get to be a part of it (they were there and they saw) *Your eyes have seen every great act of the Lord.*

Who can argue with that? Who can deny something your eyes have seen?

When I read this passage I see it as an invitation not just to know *about God* but to know Him experientially!

Psalms 46:8 (NCV): *Come and **see** what the Lord has done, the amazing things He has done on the earth"*

As good as it is to have good theology, it is equally important to step into the dimension where we "see", where we encounter the reality of God for ourselves.

1 John 1:1 - *That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which **we have seen with our eyes**, which we have **looked upon**, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life*

That is why Jesus didn't have His disciples in a classroom but out where the action was. He took them with Him and at times sent them two by two so that they would experience and "see" God at work for themselves.

a) Acts 4:20 – *For we cannot but speak the things which we have **seen** and heard.*

Peter couldn't but speak! He couldn't help himself – his life had been impacted beyond words by what he had seen. His faith had been powerfully impacted: in this chapter he commands a paralysed man to rise and walk – and he did. After that he preached with such boldness that 5000 men became Christians.

What Peter saw and heard while with Jesus,

- positioned him for that moment,
- prepared him for an extraordinary life of miracles
- empowered him to respond supernaturally to a natural impossibility

How much have you seen and heard?

What we have seen and heard, positions, prepares, and empowers us.

a) Psalms 34: 8 – *“O taste and **see** that the Lord is good”*

This passage is our invitation not to be satisfied with head knowledge but to experience: to *taste* and to *see*. The people of Deuteronomy 11 saw!

As Moses reminds people of what they had already seen he is positioning them for what is ahead.

II

Verses 7- 8: *but your eyes have seen every great act of the Lord which He did.*
⁸“Therefore you shall keep every commandment which I command you today, that you may be strong, and go in and possess the land which you cross over to possess

They needed to be strong. They could not go in, cross over and possess the land demoralised, weak, unsure, or lacking courage. They had heard great theology about the promises of God waiting for them in a land flowing with milk and honey. However now they needed more than head knowledge, they needed strength and a robust enough faith to go in and defeat every enemy. That is why Moses reminded them of what they had seen.

Great strength comes from remembering what God has already done in our lives.

III

Deuteronomy 11:2-3: *² Know today that I do not speak with your children, who have **not known** and who **have not seen** the chastening of the Lord your God, His greatness and His mighty hand and His outstretched arm— ³ His signs and **His acts** which He did in the midst of Egypt, to Pharaoh king of Egypt, and to all his land;*

This was not a message for those who hadn't seen and hadn't known, for those weren't there when it happened. Moses was speaking to those who had seen, to those who participated in that whole experience with God.

I want to be of those who know and those who see, and those who experience, and those who are there when God visits with His power!

Some final Thoughts

Deuteronomy 11:7: *“But your eyes have seen every great act of the Lord which He did”*

As I mentioned at the start, we see 3 things in this passage:

- That God acts
- The types of acts of God (great, magnificent, splendid, majestic)
- And that we get to be a part of it (they saw).

Here are a few thoughts on how to be a part of it, how to see the great acts of God in your life:

1. You need to believe first.

To see you need to believe, not the other way around. Some people are like Thomas who said, *I will believe when I see*. That is not how it works. First you believe and then you see!

Psalm 27: 13 - *I would have lost heart, unless I had **believed** that I would **see** the goodness of the Lord In the land of the living.*

We will **see** the goodness of God here in the land of the living. However, the word 'believed' comes first. First, we believe.

John 11:40 - *Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you would **believe** you would **see** the glory of God?”*

2. You need to desire

Clearly not everyone desired to go into the promised land. In fact, we read in **Acts 7:39** that some in their hearts turned back to Egypt.

Mark 11:24 KJV - *What things soever ye **desire**, when ye pray ...*

3. You need to love the Lord

Seeing God move with power comes easy when your heart is fully set on the Lord to love Him and walk with Him. Love is the foundation of every blessing and favour and anything we see from God. Everything flows out of relationship and intimacy.

This is how our text today starts:

¹ “Therefore you shall love the Lord your God, and keep His charge...

To love the Lord is mentioned at least **10 times** in the book of Deuteronomy!

Verses 13-15, 22-25 describe a whole range of blessings that they would see as a result of loving the Lord:

- *¹³‘And it shall be that if you earnestly obey My commandments which I command you today, **to love the Lord your God** and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹⁴ then I will give you the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil. ¹⁵ And I will send grass in your fields for your livestock, that you may eat and be filled.’*
- *²² “For if you carefully keep all these commandments which I command you to do—**to love the Lord your God**, to walk in all His ways, and to hold fast to Him— ²³ then the Lord will drive out all these nations from before you, and you will dispossess greater and mightier nations than yourselves. ²⁴ Every place on which the sole of your foot treads shall be yours. [...]*

²⁵ No man shall be able to stand against you ...

It will not be hard to see the goodness of God in the land of the living, to see miracles and to build your history with God when you love Him!

Conclusion

In summary, today we talked about...

1. The importance of wanting to see more of God in our lives, experientially
2. How, what we have seen, strengthens us to the greater pursuits of God in our future
3. The great acts of God flow into our lives when we believe, desire and love the Lord.