

d) Salvations

- John 4:35, NIV – (35) *Do you not say, Four months more and then the harvest? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.*

10. Present Expectations Determine Future Rewards

- John 4:36, NIV – (35) *Do you not say, Four months more and then the harvest? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. (36) Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together.*

HOW TO HAVE POSITIVE EXPECTATIONS

1. Ask God for Grace

- 2 Corinthians 9:8, NIV – (8) *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*

2. Receive God's Peace

- Philippians 4:7, NIV – (7) *And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

3. Choose To Only Make Godly (Positive) Declarations

- 1 Timothy 6:12, NIV – (12) *Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.*

4. Expect God To Move According To Your Positive Declarations

- Isaiah 30:18, NIV – (18) *Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!*

SUMMARY

- Isaiah 30:15, NIV – ... *“In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength...”*
- The expectations in our heart, create an atmosphere around us, that will either attract the activity of God, or of Satan

WINNING THE BATTLE FOR YOUR MIND

Part 7 – Faith And Expectation

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BELIEVING - REVISITED

1. Jesus Deals With Us On The Basis Of Our Believing

- Matthew 21:22, NIV – “If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”

2. How Much Believing Faith Do We Need?

- Matthew 17:20, NIV – (20) “... I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”

3. We Must Learn To “Plant” Our Mustard Seed Faith

- Mark 4:31, NIV – “[The kingdom of God] is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground.”
- Matthew 13:31, NIV – ... “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field.”
- Luke 13:19, NIV – “[The kingdom of God] is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his garden. It grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air perched in its branches.”
- Luke 17:6, NIV – ... “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea’, and it will obey you.”

4. The Importance Of Believing

- John 20:31, NIV – “But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”

5. The Importance Of Positive Believing

- Believing always brings a result, a consequence, an outcome

EXPECTATIONS

1. The Power Of Negative Expectations

- Job 3:25-26, NIV – (25) *“What I feared has come upon me; what I dreaded has happened to me. (26) I have no peace, no quietness; I have no rest, but only turmoil.”*

2. Our Expectations Attract Results

- Job 3:25, NASB – (25) *“For what I fear comes upon me, And what I dread befalls me.”*

3. How We Pray According To Our Expectations

- Many of the curses over our lives are actually our own word curses, put on us by our negative expectations and declarations.
- Hosea 8:7, NIV – (7) *They sow the wind and reap the whirlwind. ...*

4. How Do We Develop Negative Expectations?

- People’s Judgments On Us - Luke 6:28, NIV – (28) *Bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.*
- Our Judgments On Others - Matthew 7:2, NIV – (2) *For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.*
- Our Judgments On Ourselves / Our Negative Confessions - Luke 6:45, NIV – (45) *The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.*

5. Negative Expectations Turn Our Hearts Toward Evil

- Matthew 25:24-30, NIV – “(24) ... *the man who had received the one talent came. ‘Master’, he said ... (25) ... ‘I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground.’ ... (26) His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! ... (30) ... throw that worthless servant outside ...’”*
- If we, as God’s servants, do not deal with unresolved fears, and negative expectations, those expectations may even affect our heart’s condition, and turn it from good to evil

6. Negative Expectations Attract Negative Consequences

- Isaiah 30:15-16, NIV – (15) *This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. (16) You said, ‘No, we will flee on horses’. Therefore you will flee! You said, ‘We will ride off on swift horses’. Therefore your pursuers will be swift!”*
- Much of what happens to us, we’ve done to ourselves, because of our negative expectations

7. The Amplification Factor Of Expectations

- Isaiah 30:17, NIV – (17) *A thousand will flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five you will all flee away ...”*
- Our negative expectations magnify the size of the opposition

8. Paul’s Expectation

- Philippians 1:20, NIV – (20) *I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.*

9. What Can We Realistically Expect?

- Provision
 - Philippians 4:19, NIV – (19) *And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.*
- Purpose And Prosperity
 - Jeremiah 29:11, NIV – (11) *“For I know the plans I have for you”, declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*
- A Harvest Of Righteousness
 - 2 Corinthians 9:10, NIV – (10) *Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.*